

Rapid Response to Covid-19 STORY TELLING PROJECT

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Short Bio & Summary of stories

Andre du Plessis is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education.

The story tries to portray a snap shot of how learners engage with one another and their teacher. It also highlights that teachers are concerned and care about their learners, which is highlighted by the fact that their teacher wonders who will be returning and who not to school. The main message conveys how easily the CORONA virus can spread by using basic mathematical patterns to emulate the spreading, while this model is very simplistic.

Shervani Pillay is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education.

Gift to the World is a lovely little story of a little girl called Thandi who is being faced with the moral challenges of COVID 19. In this story COVID 19 is portrayed as a monster who is trying to influence little Thandi to be irresponsible and not practice social distancing. A little fairy called Siphokazi, tries to guide Thandi to be more responsible to those around her. The story centres around little Thandi's dilemma of making the right and most responsible choice.

Margie Childs is a Senior lecturer in the Faculty of Education.

The intention of Story Time with Thabisa and Kholisa is to entertain, intrigue and inform. We glimpse into the world of a little girl, Thabisa, during lockdown. She is bored and her big sister Kholisa finds her a story on the internet. We peep over their shoulders as they look at the story on the laptop screen. They have found a special kind of story – a wordless picture book! As the girls explore this book, we discover how to interpret wordless books. We are entertained by the silly story of a dog, a cat, and a big mess of spilled paint. We are intrigued by a story within a story and we learn how to share and enjoy wordless picture books.

Nokhanyo Mdzanga is an Associate Professor and Deputy Dean in the Faculty of Education.

This is a story of a grandmother in a rural context who took care of a child with Autism. It outlines how she grappled with the condition, steps she took to understand his grandson, her advocacy work in educating the community about signs of autism and strategies she used to support her grandchild during the COVID 19 period.

Mathabo Khau is an Associate professor in the Faculty of Education.

She describes her story as follows: People are social animals and need to feel needed, appreciated and to belong. If people feel unappreciated or not needed, they can express their frustrations in different ways such as emotional outbursts or violence. This story shows how the father felt unappreciated by his family during the lockdown. He was staying at home and not feeling useful. Thus, he became frustrated and expressed his frustration through a violent outburst against the mother. His family made him realise that he was still needed and useful

in chopping firewood, washing dishes and reading for the children.

Muki Moeng is a Dean of the Faculty of Education.

Her uplifting story is about a little girl named Nomalanga, who is very imaginative. She looked up to her kind and loving mother as role model. After her mother's sudden and sad passing, she struggles to follow her grandmother's house rules. She eventually comes around and realizes that she must respect her grandmother because she wanted to see the smile that reflected her mother's. She starts to follow in her mother's footsteps of helping and caring for her community by spreading love and kindness. She became happy and also reflected the beautiful smile that she loved to see on her mother's face.

Deidre Geduld is a Senior lecturer in the Faculty of Education.

Ava is a young girl who has just started Grade 1. She enjoys being with her friends and teacher. She loves her school and cannot understand why school has closed when it only just started and why she cannot play with her friends in her community. A special discussion plays off between Ava and her mom on the challenges of the COVID19 virus; where it comes from and the many challenges it holds for young and old. From her friend Kara Ava learns that the COVID19 virus not only impacts on people's health but have financial challenges as well since Kara's parents are not working currently, there is not money to buy bread and food for Kara's family. Ava gladly shares her sandwiches with her friend.

N. Gedze, N. Mntwini, T. Chizu are part of an organisation called Intsika Yokwabelana Ngolwazi, aimed at Restoring the FUN in Learning.

These are stories collected by three community members, on how our communities are surviving in spite of the challenges presented by their socio-economic context and the pandemic. 3 high school learners meet up at a Study camp and are grouped together for the camp's activities, one of them being about the Covid-19 Pandemic. From their discussions they pick up a lot about the 'Contextual differences' as well as how 'people in their communities' are 'not well informed' about it.

Heloise Sathorar is a Senior lecturer in the Faculty of Education.

This prose reflects on the impact of COVID 19 on the lives of learners – especially Grade 7 and Grade 12 learners who had so much dreams, goals and plans for their final year at primary and secondary school respectively. Lockdown restrictions required everyone to think differently and to do things differently – including how learners do their school work. The prose motivates learners to take responsibility for their own learning and to support each other to achieve their goals. Most of all learners were encouraged to stay focused and to hold on to their dreams.

USING STORYTELLING AS EDUCATIONAL RAPID RESPONSE TO COVID19

Prof N.N. Mdzanga

When a call on Rapid Response Research and Innovation measures against the COVID19 pandemic came out in April 2020, I thought it was an opportunity not to be missed. Universities had been requested to respond to this call in order to rapidly provide assistance to the public against the COVID 19 pandemic. As response to this call, a few colleagues and I thought about putting together a project to respond to the theme on 'public understanding and awareness'. After a few brainstorming sessions, we agreed on a project that will provide an educational response to COVID19-and what better way than writing stories that could inform families on COVID19. Through these stories we aim to educate and raise awareness about

issues such as the importance of staying at home during lockdown, how mathematical patterns can be used to show how the CORONA virus can spread and so forth. We hope that these stories would inspire, motivate, entertain, educate and influence what families do during this time. We plan to disseminate the stories as follows: uploading stories online and link will be distributed to a network of educators and student teachers as a reading resource; donate stories to orphanages, reading clubs and schools; read stories in local radio stations, avail them as supplements in the local newspapers as well as converting them into braille and donate to families and schools for children who are blind. Contributors are: Prof's du Plessis, Khau, Mdzanga, Pillay; Drs Sathorar, Geduld, Childs, Moeng & community members: Ms Gedze, Mntwini & Chizu.

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IT IS IN YOUR HANDS *the fight against COVID-19*



GIFT TO THE WORLD

Shervani Pillay
Illustrated by Ronsley Le Roux

Siphokazi flies down a dark street. The wind is icy and whips her purple dress around her ankles. Her wings flutter because of the cold. There is no one else outside on the street. Suddenly, she feels something

evil and scary coming from one of the houses on the street. She flies in that direction and finds Thandi and Mr 19 sitting in a room. Thandi notices her and asks her who she is. "I am a gift to the world, you can call me

Siphokazi", says Siphokazi. "Who are you?" she asks them. Thandi answers, "I am Thandi, I am love."

Siphokazi smiles kindly at her. She turns to the corner, "And who are you", she asks the tall creature. She has never seen anything that looks like that. The creature ignores Siphokazi which is very rude.

Thandi comes to the rescue, "He is Mr 19. He is my friend. Mr 19 and I are talking. I am not happy that I have to stay inside and not play with my friends. Mr 19 agrees with me!"

Siphokazi looks at both of them. She has a worried look on her face. *This Mr 19 is a trouble-maker! He has been visiting everyone, convincing them to be bad to each other during this time of the Covid 19 virus.*

Thandi doesn't know why she should stay inside during Lockdown. She just wants to visit her friend Asha who lives next door.

Mr 19 looks at Siphokazi angrily, "Who do you think you are with your silver wings and white face mask? Why are you saying we are wrong? You don't know anything!" Thandi nods eagerly. Siphokazi listens carefully, then she says, "If you go to visit Asha you can infect her with the virus. And she can then infect other people in her house. Because we do not know if she has been exposed the virus. Or on your way -"

Before she has a chance to finish her sentence, Mr 19 interrupts her, and keeps talking to Thandi. Siphokazi realises that she is not winning and has to try a different tactic. She asks Thandi, "Doesn't Asha have a grandmother?"

"Oh yes cries Thandi," full of excitement. "Yes, she is from Uganda and makes the best Posho!"

Thandi's mouth is watering even as she thinks about the delicious Posho that Asha's grandmother always gives her to eat.

Mr 19 Frowns. He looks confused.

Siphokazi looks at Thandi, "Is Asha's grandmother old?"

Thandi replies, "Yes she is super old! Like a hundred years old. She has so many wrinkles, and her back is bent."

"Do you know that you can spread the Covid 19 virus to other people Thandi?" she asks. Thandi looks angry, "But why is that my problem?"

"Because you can spread the disease to Asha's grandmother," says Siphokazi gently.

Mr 19 chimes in, "Oh she is so old, and she is not even South African, so why should Thandi care?"

Thandi looks confused, "Yes, why?"

Siphokazi, sits on the bed, she looks really sad. She asks softly, "Don't you care about Asha's grandmother?" Thandi nods, "Yes, I do."

Mr 19 looks scared. He seems to be slightly smaller. He says to Thandi, "Stop listening to her!"

Thandi looks confused, but Siphokazi seems very nice. So maybe she will give Siphokazi a chance to speak.

Siphokazi explains, "Asha loves her grandmother. And even if Asha's grandmother is from Uganda doesn't she still love both of you.

Thandi replies, "Yes she does. She gives me Posho when I am hungry and my Mother is at work.

Mr 19 does not like the way this conversation is going. He thinks that Siphokazi is a busy body. He yells, "Don't listen to her!"

Thandi looks at him differently, as if she is seeing him for the first time. It is obvious that he is smaller than he was before. Mr 19 is shrinking before her eyes.

Siphokazi explains to Thandi, "Asha's grandmother is very old and if you go and see her you could infect her. Make her sick."

Thandi looks very scared. She is almost crying. I do not want her to get sick, she is very nice to me. I care about her. And if she gets sick who will look after Asha? Her mother is a nurse who works at the big hospital where many people are sick with the virus. She goes to work every day now, even though my parents are staying at home. She is very brave."

Mr 19 is now very tiny. He screams in a high pitched voice, "She's lying to you!"

Thandi looks at him, and says: You are wrong! You just want to hurt people. I will not go outside because no one deserves to get sick! Asha's mother looks after everyone. She is very brave!

Mr 19 disappears!

Siphokazi says, "Well done Thandi! You have done a very good thing. Every person in this world, no matter how old they are, how sick they are, how they look or where they are from deserve a right to live. Everyone deserves to feel safe in this world. Deserve an equal opportunity to live and be healthy!"

Thandi looks very sleepy. She says, "Thank you!"

She blinks. When she opens her eyes Siphokazi is gone!

What have you learned from this story?
How do you think Mr 19 looks? Draw a picture of him.

GESKENK AAN DIE WÊRELD

Shervani Pillay
Geïllustreerd deur Ronsley Le Roux

Siphokazi vlieg in 'n donker straat af. Die wind is ysig en sy vou haar pers rok om haar enkels. Haar vlerke fladder weens die koue. Daar is niemand anders buite op straat nie. Skielik voel sy iets boos en skrikwekkend kom uit een van die huise op straat. Sy vlieg in daardie rigting en vind Thandi en mnr. 19 in 'n kamer sit. Thandi merk haar op en vra haar wie sy is. "Ek is 'n geskenk vir die wêreld, jy kan my Siphokazi noem", sê Siphokazi. "Wie is julle?" vra sy hulle Thandi antwoord, "Ek is Thandi, ek is liefde."

Siphokazi glimlag vriendelik na haar. Sy draai na die hoek, "En wie is jy?", vra sy vir die lang wese. Sy het nog nooit iets gesien wat so lyk nie. Die wese ignoreer Siphokazi, wat baie onbeskof is.

Thandi kom tot die redding: "Hy is mnr. 19. Hy is my vriend. Mnr 19 en ek praat. Ek is nie gelukkig dat ek binne moet bly en nie met my vriende moet speel nie. Mnr. 19 stem saam met my!" Siphokazi kyk na albei van hulle. Sy het 'n bekommerde uitdrukking op haar gesig. *Hierdie mnr. 19 is 'n probleemmaker! Hy het almal besoek en oortuig om lelik met mekaar te wees gedurende hierdie tyd van die Covid 19-virus.*

Thandi weet nie hoekom sy binne moet bly tydens gendeltyd nie. Sy wil net haar vriendin, Asha, besoek wat langsaan woon.

Mnr. 19 kyk Siphokazi kwaai aan: "Wie dink jy is jy met jou silwer vlerke en 'n wit gesigsmasker? Waarom sê jy dat ons verkeerd is? Jy weet niks!" Thandi knik gretig. Siphokazi luister aandagtig, dan sê sy: "As jy Asha besoek, kan jy haar met die virus besmet. En sy kan dan ander mense in haar huis besmet. Omdat ons nie weet of sy aan die virus blootgestel is nie. Of op pad -"

Voordat sy die kans kry om haar sin te voltooi, onderbreek mnr. 19 haar en hou aan praat met Thandi. Siphokazi besef dat sy nie wen nie en 'n ander taktiek moet probeer. Sy vra Thandi: "Het Asha nie 'n ouma nie?"

"O ja!" roep Thandi opgewonde uit. "Ja, sy kom van Uganda en maak die beste Posho!"

Thandi se mond water terwyl sy dink aan die heerlike Posho wat Asha se ouma haar altyd gee om te eet.

Mnr. 19 frons. Hy lyk verward.

Siphokazi kyk na Thandi: "Is Asha se ouma oud?"

Thandi antwoord: "Ja, sy is super oud! Soos honderd jaar oud. Sy het soveel plooië, en haar rug is krom."

"Thandi, weet jy dat jy die Covid 19-virus na ander kan versprei?" vra sy.

Thandi lyk kwaad: "Maar hoekom is dit my probleem?"

"Omdat jy die siekte na Asha se ouma kan versprei," sê Siphokazi saggies.

Mnr. 19 lui: "Ag, sy is so oud en sy is nie eens Suid-Afrikaans nie, so hoekom moet Thandi omgee?"

Thandi lyk verward, "Ja, hoekom?"

Siphokazi, gaan sit op die bed, sy lyk regtig hartseer. Sy vra saggies: "Gee u nie om vir Asha se ouma nie?"

Mnr. 19 onderbeek hulle: "Ag, sy is so oud en sy is nie eens Suid-Afrikaans nie, so hoekom moet Thandi omgee?"

Thandi knik. "Ja, ek doen."

Mnr. 19 lyk bang. Dit lyk asof hy effens kleiner is. Hy sê vir Thandi: "Hou op om na haar te luister!"

Thandi lyk verward, maar Siphokazi lyk baie mooi. So miskien sal sy Siphokazi die kans gee om te praat.

Siphokazi verduidelik: "Asha is lief vir haar ouma. En selfs al is Asha se ouma afkomstig van Uganda, is sy nie nogsteeds lief vir julle twee nie?"

Thandi antwoord: "Ja, sy is. Sy gee my Posho as ek honger is en my ma by die werk is."

Mnr. 19 hou nie van hoe hierdie gesprek verloop nie. Hy dink dat Siphokazi in 'n meng. Hy skree: "Moenie na haar luister nie!"

Thandi kyk anders na hom, asof sy hom vir die eerste keer sien. Dit is duidelik dat hy kleiner is as wat hy voorheen was. Mnr. 19 krimp voor haar oë.

Siphokazi verduidelik aan Thandi: "Die Asha se ouma is baie oud en as jy haar gaan besoek, kan jy haar besmet. Haar siek maak."

Thandi lyk baie bang. Sy huil amper. "Ek wil nie hê dat sy siek moet word nie, sy is baie lief vir my. Ek gee om vir haar. En as sy siek word, wie sal vir Asha versorg? Haar ma is 'n verpleegster wat in die groot hospitaal werk waar



baie mense siek is met die virus. Sy gaan nou elke dag werk, al bly my ouers tuis. Sy is baie dapper."

Mnr. 19 is nou baie klein. Hy skree met 'n hoë stemmetjie: "Sy lieg vir jou!"

Thandi kyk na hom en sê: "Jy is verkeerd! Jy wil net mense seermaak. Ek sal nie buitentoe gaan nie, want niemand verdien om siek te word nie! Asha se ma sorg vir almal. Sy is baie dapper!"

Mnr. 19 verdwyn!

Siphokazi sê: "Welgedaan Thandi! Jy het 'n baie goeie

ding gedoen. Elke persoon in hierdie wêreld maak nie saak hoe oud hulle is nie, hoe siek hulle is nie, hoe hulle lyk of waar hulle is nie, verdien die reg om te lewe. Almal verdien om veilig te voel in hierdie wêreld. Hulle verdien 'n gelyke kans om gesond te leef en gesond te wees!"

Thandi lyk baie slaperig. Sy sê: "Dankie!"

Sy knip haar oë. Toe sy hulle oopmaak, is Siphokazi weg!

Wat het jy uit die storie geleer?
Hoe dink jy lyk Mnr 19? Teken 'n prentjie van hom.

Story Time with Thabisa and Kholisa

LOCKDOWN

Margie Childs
Illustrated by Anesu Nabira

Thabisa was sitting at home with nothing to do! It was a time of lockdown. Everyone had to stay at home. Thabisa, a lively eight year old, loved to play outside with her friends. It was very difficult for her to stay inside, day in and day out. She had helped Mama wash the clothes and make the beds. She had packed the dishes away and wiped the kitchen table. Thabisa felt sad and grumpy. She wished she could go outside to play. She was tired of listening to stories on the radio. She wanted to talk to her friends and play skipping games with them. Thabisa asked her family what she should do.

Gogo said she should read her bible. Tata said she

should feed the dog. Her brother Simphiwe said she should draw a picture. Thabisa shook her head. She didn't want to read her bible. She didn't want to feed the dog. She didn't want to draw a picture. Kholisa, Thabisa's big sister, had come home from the university. She was sitting in the bedroom they shared, working on an assignment. Thabisa told her that she was bored because she had nothing to do.

At first Kholisa carried on working on her laptop. Thabisa said that she wished she had a computer. She said that if she couldn't have a computer, then she would like a book. She wanted a storybook. Her teacher sometimes read stories to the class when they had finished their work.

ished their work.

Kholisa looked up from her work. She listened to her little sister. Thabisa said that she was bored and sad and that her tummy was beginning to ache. Slowly Kholisa started to smile. She explained to Thabisa that she could find her a story, by searching on the internet. At the university, Kholisa had learnt about wordless picture books. These books were very special. Because they had no words, children could look at the pictures and make up their own stories. Kholisa wondered if her sister would enjoy a book without words. She found a book called "Bow Meow Wow". It looked like the kind of book that would help Thabisa to feel better.

Thabisa and Kholisa sat together on the bed. At first Kholisa read the title of the book. Thabisa thought it sounded very funny. Then they looked at the cover page. All they could see was a paintbrush and two tails. Kholisa asked Thabisa to guess who the characters in the story would be. Thabisa thought for a while and then said that perhaps there would be a dog and a cat in the story. Maybe dog would say "bow-wow" and the cat would say "meow". The sisters looked at the pictures. As Kholisa clicked through the story, Thabisa explained what was happening. A silly little dog barked at a tin of paint. He bumped the cat and he made a big, yellow mess as he ran this way and that. He stopped in front of a sleepy cat. The cat woke with a terrible fright and knocked over three tins of red paint. What a mess! The cat was very angry. She leapt into the air and began to chase the dog.

The dog was covered in yellow paint and the cat was covered in red paint. The dog and the cat tumbled around in the slippery paint. The yellow and red paint mixed together.

Soon the dog and the cat were covered in bright orange paint. Now the dog was chasing the cat. They dashed into a house where a famous artist lived. She was getting ready to paint a picture. The dog and the cat raced around her. The black paint went flying! The artist watched as the animals chased each other wildly. What a mess!

Eventually the dog and the cat fell over, exhausted. The artist was delighted. What a lovely swirly picture of yellow, red, orange and black. "Wow!" It was the best picture they had ever seen. The artist helped the dog and the cat to clean themselves.

She made herself a cup of tea and sat down to look at the wonderful work of art. The artist gave the dog and the cat each a biscuit and thanked them for helping her create such a lovely picture.

Thabisa hugged Kholisa. She thanked her for finding the story. Thabisa ran to tell Mama, Tata, Gogo and Simphiwe about "Bow Meow Wow". Being locked down at home wasn't so bad after all!

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After enjoying the story together, draw a picture of your favourite part of the story.

The story can be accessed as follows:

<https://freekidsbooks.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/FKB-Stories-bow-meow-wow.pdf>

Storietyd met Thabisa en Kholisa

Margie Childs
Geïllustreerd deur Anesu Nabira

Thabisa het tuis gesit met niks om te doen nie. Dit was 'n tyd van inperking. Almal moes tuisbly. Thabisa, 'n lewendige agtjarige, hou daarvan om buite met haar vriende te speel. Dit was vir haar baie moeilik om dag en nag binne te bly. Sy het Mama gehelp om die klere te was en die beddens op te maak. Sy het die skottelgoed weggepak en die kombuistafel afgevee. Thabisa voel hartseer en knorrig. Sy wens dat sy buite kon gaan speel. Sy was moeg om na die stories op die radio te luister. Sy wou met haar vriende praat en saam met hulle touspring-speletjies speel. Thabisa het haar familie gevra wat sy moet doen.

Gogo het gesê dat sy haar Bybel moet lees. Tata het gesê dat sy die hond moet voer. Haar broer, Simphiwe, het gesê dat sy 'n prentjie moet teken. Thabisa skud haar kop. Sy wou nie haar Bybel lees nie. Sy wou nie die hond voer nie. Sy wou nie 'n prentjie teken nie. Kholisa, Thabisa se ouer suster, het van die universiteit af teruggekom. Sy het in die slaapkamer gesit wat hulle gedeel het en aan 'n opdrag gewerk. Thabisa het haar vertel dat sy verveeld is omdat sy niks gehad het om te doen nie. Aanvanklik het Kholisa op haar skootrekenaar gewerk. Thabisa het gesê dat sy wens sy het 'n rekenaar gehad. Sy het gesê dat as sy nie 'n rekenaar gehad het nie, sy 'n boek sou wou hê. Sy wou 'n storieboek hê. Haar onderwyser lees soms stories vir die klas wanneer hulle klaar was met hul werk.

Kholisa het opgekyk van haar werk. Sy luister na haar

kleinsus. Thabisa het gesê dat sy verveeld en hartseer is en dat haar maag begin pyn het. Kholisa begin stadig glimlag. Sy het aan Thabisa verduidelik dat sy vir haar 'n storie kan vind deur op die internet te soek. Op universiteit het Kholisa geleer oor woordelose prentjies. Hierdie boeke was baie spesiaal. Omdat hulle geen woorde gehad het nie, kon kinders na die prente kyk en hul eie verhale opmaak. Kholisa wonder of haar suster 'n boek sonder woorde sou geniet. Sy het 'n boek met die naam "Bow Meow Wow" gevind. Dit het gelyk soos die soort boek wat Thabisa sou help om beter te voel.

Thabisa en Kholisa het saam op die bed gesit. Aanvanklik het Kholisa die titel van die boek gelees. Thabisa het gedink dit klink baie snaaks. Toe kyk hulle na die voorblad. Al wat hulle kon sien, was 'n verfkwas en twee

sterte. Kholisa het Thabisa gevra om te raai wie die karakters in die verhaal sou wees. Thabisa het 'n rukkie nagedink en sê toe dat daar miskien 'n hond en 'n kat in die verhaal sou wees. Miskien sou die hond "bow-wow" sê, en die kat sou "meow" sê. Die susters het na die foto's gekyk. Toe Kholisa deur die verhaal klik, verduidelik Thabisa wat aangaan. 'n Dom hondjie blaf vir 'n blikkie verf. Hy stamp die blik en die deksel af. Geel verf spat uit en drup op die vloer. Die klein hondjie hardloop rond. Hy het 'n groot, geel gemors gemaak toe hy soontoe gehardloop het. Hy stop voor 'n slaperige kat. Die kat het wakker geskrik en drie blikkies rooi verf omgestamp. Wat 'n gemors! Die kat was baie kwaad. Sy spring in die lug en begin die hond agtervolg.

Die hond was met geel verf bedek en die kat was met rooi verf bedek. Die hond en die kat tuimel rond in die gladde verf. Die geel en rooi verf is gemeng.

Kort voor lank was die hond en die kat bedek met helder oranje verf. Nou jaag die hond die kat. Hulle gaan 'n huis binne waar 'n beroemde kunstenaar gewoon het. Sy maak gereed om 'n foto te skilder. Die hond en die kat het om haar gehardloop. Die swart verf het gevlieg! Die kunstenaar kyk hoe die diere mekaar wild jaag. Wat 'n gemors!

Uiteindelik val die hond en die kat uitgeput om. Die kunstenaar was verheug. Wat 'n lieflike prentjie van geel, rooi, oranje en swart. "Sjoe!" Dit was die beste prentjie wat hulle nog ooit gesien het. Die kunstenaar het die hond en die kat gehelp om hulself skoon te maak.

Sy maak vir haar 'n koppie tee en gaan sit om na die wonderlike kunswerk te kyk. Die kunstenaar het die hond en die kat elkeen 'n beskuitjie gegee en hulle bedank dat hulle haar gehelp het om so 'n pragtige prentjie te maak.

Thabisa het Kholisa omhels. Sy bedank haar dat sy die storie. Thabisa hardloop om vir Mama, Tata, Gogo en Simphiwe te vertel oor "Bow Meow Wow". Word toegesluit by die huis was darem nie so erg nie!

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Nadat julle die storie saam gelees het, teken 'n prentjie van jou gunsteling deel van die storie.

Die storie kan hier gekry word:

<https://freekidsbooks.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/FKB-Stories-bow-meow-wow.pdf>



Ixesha leballi noThabisa noKholisa

Margie Childs
Imizobo nguAnesu Nabira

UThabisa wayehleli ekhaya engenanto yokwenza! Yayilixesha lokuba wonke umntu ahlale endlwini angaphumi. Wonke umntu kwakufuneka ahlale ekhaya. UThabisa odlamkileyo oneminyaka esibhozo, wayekuthanda ukudlala phandle nabahlobo bakhe. Kwakunzima kakhulu kuye ukuhlala endlwini, umhla nezolo. Wayencedisa uMama ukuhlamba iimpahla nokondlula iibhedi. Wayepakishe izitya ezikhabhathini wosula netafile yasekhithini. UThabisa waziva elusizi ekhathazekile. Wayenqwenela ukuya phandle aye kudlala. Wayekruqulile kukuphulaphula amabali kunomathotholo. Wayefuna ukuthetha nabahlobo bakhe adlale nabo imidlalo yokutsibatsiba. UThabisa wabuza usapho lwakhe ukuba enze ntoni na.

UGogo wathi makafunde iBhayibhile yakhe. UTata wathi makapheinja ukutya. Ubhuti wakhe uSimphiwe wathi makazobe umfanekiso. UThabisa wanikina intloko. Wayengafuni ukufunda iBhayibhile yakhe. Wayengafuni ukuphainja ukutya. Wayengafuni ukuzoba umfanekiso. UKholisa udadeboThabisa, wayebuyile eYunivesithi.

Wayehleli kwigumbi labo lokulala, esenza i-asayinmenti. UThabisa wamxelela ukuba ukuqulile kuba akananto yokwenza. Ekuqaleni uKholisa waqhubeka wasebenza kwikhompyutha yakhe. UThabisa wathi unqwenela ukunga anganekhompyutha. Wathi ukuba akangebi nayo ikhompyutha angathanda ukuba nencwadi. Wayefuna incwadi yamabali. UTitshala wakhe ngamanye amaxesha wayefundela ikhosi amabali xa begqibile ukwenza umsebenzi wabo.

UKholisa waphakamisa amehlo. Waphulaphula umsakwabo. UThabisa wathi ukuqulile waye ulusizi saye nesisu sakhe sasiqalisa ukuluma. UKholisa waqalisa ukuncuma. Wamcacisela uThabisa ukuba wayenokumfumanela ibali, ngokulikhangelela kwi-intanethi. EYunivesithi, uKholisa wayefunde ngeencwadi zemifanekiso ezingenamagama. Ezi ncwadi zazikhethekile kakhulu. Kuba zazingenamagama, abantwana babenokujonga imifanekiso, baze bazenzele awabo amabali. UKholisa wayengaqinisekanga ukuba umsakwabo wayengayonwabela na incwadi engenamagama. Wafumana incwadi ebizwa ngokuba ngu "Bow Meow Wow." Yakhangeleka njengohlobo lwencwadi eyayinokumenza uThabisa azive engcono.

UThabisa noKholisa bahlala kunye phezu kwebhedi. Ekuqaleni uKholisa wafunda isihloko sencwadi. UThabisa wacinga ukuba yayivakala ngathi iyahlekisa kakhulu. Baza bajonga uqweqwe lwangaphandle. Into ababenokuyibona kuphela yibrashi yokupeyinta nemisila emibini. UKholisa wacela uThabisa ukuba makathelekelele ukuba abalinganiswa ebalini yayiza kuba ngoobani na. UThabisa wacinga umzuzwana wathi mhlawumbi kwakuzakuba kwi-inkabi nathi ebalini.

Mhlawumbi injayayiza kuthi "Bow—wow" ize ikati ithi "miyawu". Oodade bayijonga imifanekiso. Njengoko uKholisa wayecofa ikhompyutha ukuze alandele ibali, uThabisa wayechaza oko kwakusenzeka. Injana enemfeketho yakhonkotha itoti yepeyinti. Yagila itoti saza isiciko sapoqa lpeyinti etyheli yachitheka yavuzela emgangathweni. Injana yayikeleza njengoko yayibaleka ibheka ngapha nangapha. Yema phambi kwekati eleleyo. Ikati yavuka ngokoyika okukhulu yaza yagila iitoti ezintathu zepeyinti ebomvu. Umbhodamo ongako!

Ikati yaba nomsindo kakhulu. Yatsibela emoyeni yaza yaqalisa ukuleqa injayayiza. Injaya yayigqunywe yipeyinti etyheli, ikati yona igqunywe yipeyinti ebomvu.

Injaya nekati zabhuqabhuqana kwipeyinti etyibilikisayo. Ipeyinti etyheli nehomvu zaxubana. Kungekudala injaya nekati zazigqunywe yipeyinti emthubi eqaqambileyo. Ngoku injayayileka ikati. Zambonzeleka endlwini apho kwakuhlala umzobi odumileyo. Wayelungiselela ukupeyinti umfanekiso. Injaya nekati zabaleka zamjikeleza. Ipeyinti emnyama yachitheka. Umzobi wazibukela ezi zilwanyana njengoko zazileqana ngobundlobongela. Ongako umbhodamo!

Ekuqibeleni injaya nekati zava zabhukuqeka, zidiniwe. Umzobi wayenemincili. Onjalo ukuba mhle noxubeneyo umfanekiso otyheli, nabomvu, namthubi namnyama. "Kwowu!" yayingowona mfanekiso ugqwesileyo ababekhe babubona. Umzobi wancedisa injaya nekati ukuzicoca. Wazenzela ikomityi yeti waza wahlala phantsi ukuba ajonge umsebenzi omhle wokuzoba. Umzobi wanika injaya nekati ibhisikithi waza wazibulela ngokumnceda azobe umfanekiso omhle ngolo hlobo.

.....
Nisakuba nilonwabele kunye ibali, zobani umfanekiso weyona ndawo niyithandileyo ebalini.

<https://freekidsbooks.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/FKB-Stories-bow-meow-wow.pdf>



Nako ea pale: Nthabiseng le Katleho



Margie Childs
e ts'oants'isitsoe ke Anesu Nabira

Nthabiseng u ne a lutse lapeng a hloka seo aka se etsang! E ne ele nako eo naha eohle e koetsong, joale batho boohle ba ts'oanela ho lula malapeng. Nthabiseng u ne a ena le lilemo tse robeli, e le mosetsana ea matjato, ea thabelang ho babala le metsoalle ea hae kante. Ho ne ho le boima ho lula ka tlong letsatsi le leng le le leng. U ile a thusa 'me' ho hlatsoa liaparo le ho lokisa liphate. A boela a beha lijana moo li lulang eaba u hlakola metsi tafoleng ea ntlalo ea ho apha. Nthabiseng u ne a utloile bohloko, a khalla ho babala kante. Nthabiseng u ne a khathetse ke ho mamela lipale tsa sea-le-moea. U ne a batla ho qoqa le metsoalle ea hae, a babala lipapali tsa ho tloka kante. Ke ha a botsa ba lelapa la habo hore na aka itlosa bolutu joang.

Nkhono ke ha a re Nthabiseng a bale bebele; ntate a kopa Nthabiseng ho fepa ntja; ha khatseli ea hae Refiloe eena a re Nthabiseng a take lits'oants'o. Nthabiseng u ne a sa batle ho bala bebele, a sa batle ho fepa ntja, hape u ne a sa batle ho taka lits'oants'o. Ausi oa Nthabiseng, Katleho, u ne a le lapeng hotsoa sekolong se sehoho sa sechaba. U ne a lutse ka ntlalo ea ho robala eo ba e aroleanang le Nthabiseng, a ntse a phetha mosebetsi oa sekolo. Nthabiseng ke ha a hlalose tsa ausi oa hae hore u ts'oeroe ke bolutu hobane ha hona seo a ka se etsang. Qalong, Katleho u ile a itsoella pele ka mosebetsi oa hae a sebelisa komphutha. Nthabiseng u ne a khalla hore le eena aka be a ena le komphutha. A bolella ausi oa hae hore kaha ha a na eona, bonyane a ka thabela buka ea lipale. Mosuoetsana oa hae u ne a ba balla lipale sehlopheng sa bona ha ba qetile ho phetha mosebetsi oa sekolo.

Katleho a phahamisa mahlo, a mamela moena oa hae. Nthabiseng a re ho ausi oa hae u qetoa ke bolutu hape u jeoa ke mala. Butle-butle, Katleho a bobotheha. A hlalose tsa Nthabiseng hore a ka mo fumanela pale ka komphutha. Katleho u ne a ile a ithuta sekolong sa hae ka libuka tsa lipale tse hlokang mantsoe, libuka tsa mohlolo.

Kaha libuka tsena ha li na mantsoe, baithuti ba ka sheba lits'oants'o, e be ba iketsa lipale tsa bona. Katleho u ile a ipotsa hore na ebe Nthabiseng aka natefelo ke buka e hlokang mantsoe. U ile a fumana buka e

bitsoang "Bow Meow Wow." E ne e shebeha joale ka buka eo Nthabiseng a ka natefelong ke eona.

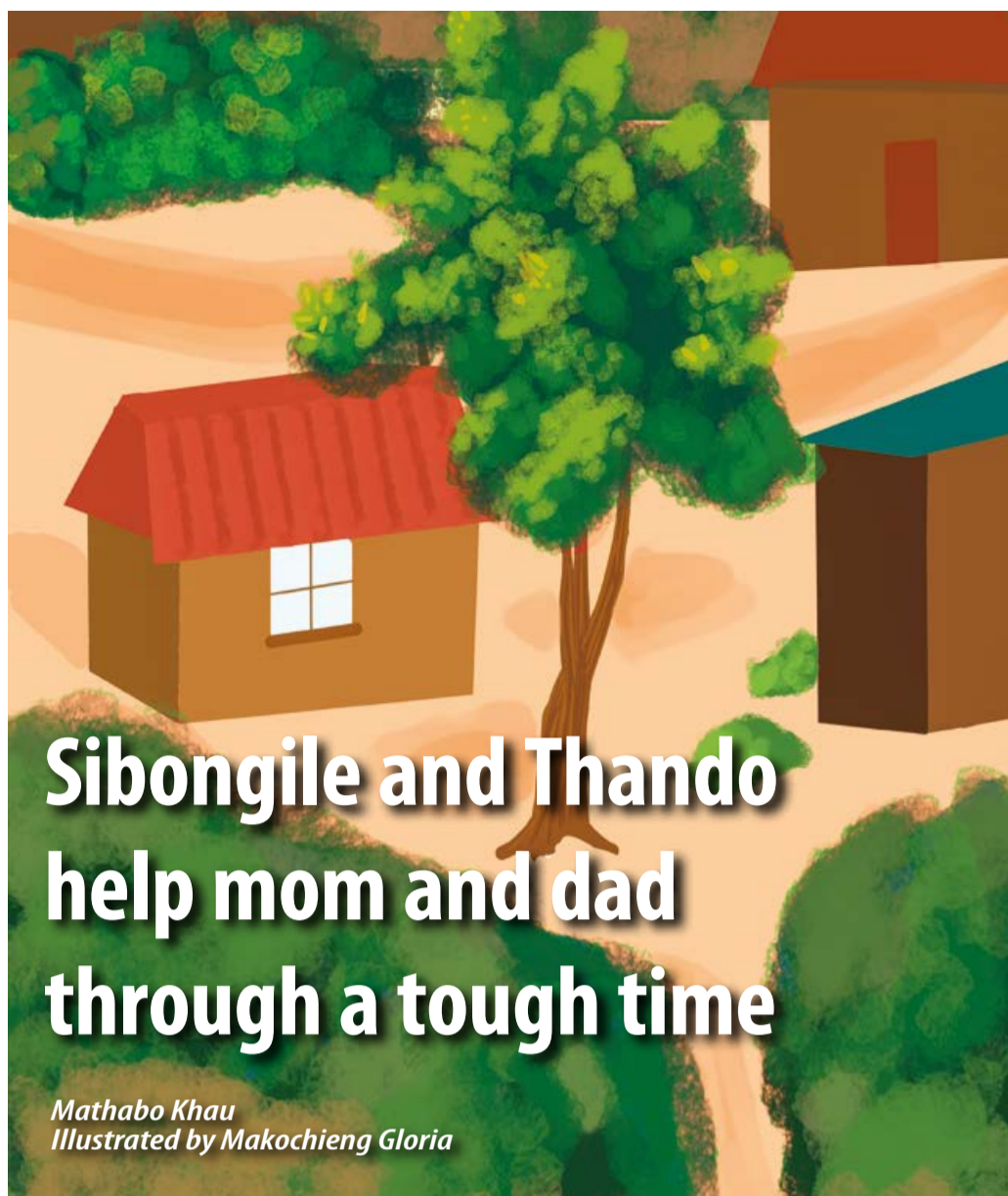
Nthabiseng le Katleho ba lula 'moho liphateng, eaba Katleho u bala sehloho sa buka. Nthabiseng u ile a nahana hore ke buka a qabolang. Eaba ba sheba leqephe la ho qala, ba bona sets'oants'o sa mehlatla e 'meli. Katleho a botsa Nthabiseng hore a lepe na ke bo mang libapali tsa pale ena. Nthabiseng a inahana ka thata eaba u re mohlomong ekaba ntja le katse paleng ena. Mohlomong ntja e ka re "bow-wow" e be katse eona e re "meow". Ba tsoella pele ho sheba lits'oants'o, eaba Katleho u supa holim'a lits'oants'o hore Nthabiseng a tsebe ho hlalosa na ho etsahala eng. Ntja e nyenyane ea bohola nkho ea 'mala, ea thula nkho eaba sekoahelo sa nkho se ea koaholloha. 'Mala o mosehla oa qhalana faats'e. Ntjanyana ea matha ho potoloha le moo 'mala u qhalaneng teng, ea etsa 'mala o mosehla o tlatlatle le ntlalo. Ntjanyana ea emisa ka pel'a katse e ts'oeroeng ke boroko. Katse e ile ea tsoha e ts'oehle haholo ea thula linkho tse tharo tsa 'mala o mo khubelu. Lits'ila tse joalo!

Katse e ne e koatle haholo. Ea qhomela moeng ea lelekisa ntjanyana. Ntjanyana e ne e tlotsitsoe ke 'mala o mosehla, ha katse eona e ne e tlotsitsoe ke 'mala o mokhubelu. Ntjanyana le katse tsa pitikisana holima mebala e qhalanetseng fats'e. 'Mala o mosehla oa kopana le o mokhubelu ho hlaha 'mala oa lamunu oa tlotsa ntjanyana le katse. Ntjanyana ea qalella ho lelekisa katse, tsa kena ntlalo ea motho ea tummeng ka ho taka lits'oants'o. U ne a itokisetsa ho taka sets'oants'o. Ntjanyana le katse tsa mo pota-pota. Nkho ea 'mala o mots'o ea qhalana! Setaki sa lits'oants'o sa shebela ha liphoofole tsena li lelekisana li etsa bohlaso!

Qetellong, ntjanyana le katse tsa oela fats'e li khathetse. Setaki sa lits'oants'o se ne se thabile haholo. Hoa hlaha sets'oants'o sa 'mala o mosehla, bokhubelu, le bots'o. "Khele!" E ne e le sets'oants'o se botle bo makatsang. Setaki sa lits'oants'o sa thusa ntjanyana le katse ho hlatsoa mebala e li tlotsitsoe. A lula fats'e a noa tee a bohile botle ba sets'oants'o sena! Setaki sa lits'oants'o se ile sa ngoathela ntjanyana le katse bohoojana, a li leboha ka ho se thusa ho taka sets'oants'o se setlehal!

.....
Kamor'a ho natefelo ke pale 'moho, taka sets'oants'o sa karolo eo o e ratileng ho feta tse ling paleng ena.

<https://freekidsbooks.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/FKB-Stories-bow-meow-wow.pdf>



Sibongile and Thando help mom and dad through a tough time

Mathabo Khau
Illustrated by Makochieng Gloria

Thando and Sibongile lived with their parents in a small house in a rural village. Thando and Sibongile shared a room, and mom and dad had their own room. They were very happy in their family because mom and dad made sure that the children had all their basic needs. Dad worked in mine in the city near the village. Mom was a teacher in the village primary school where Thando and Sibongile were learners. Thando was

very protective of his little sister Sibongile and made sure that they walked together to and from school daily.

However, it happened one day that the country was shut down. Schools, shops and many places of work were closed, and people were told to stay at home where they could be safe from a dangerous virus.

"Why are you sad my dear sister?" asked Thando. "Don't you like my jokes anymore?"

"I am sad because I am missing my school friends. Why can't I visit them?" replied Sibongile.

"We have to respect the president my sister. Staying at home protects everybody so that we do not get sick" said Thando to Sibongile.

The children were playing with a puzzle in their room one day when they heard raised voices from their parents' room. They kept quiet and listened to dad and mom talking with loud voices.

"I am tired of sitting around and being useless in my own house. I feel like no one needs me in this house. It is always you and your children busy with books and I can't do anything but watch" said dad throwing a book at mom. The children heard a loud thud on the wall and ran to their parents' room.

Mom was kneeling in a corner where the book had fallen and was picking up the torn pages, with tears running down her cheeks. Mom had a bruise on her face where the book had hit her. Thando and Sibongile were very sad.

"Mom, are you hurt? Dad, did you hurt mom?" the children said in a chorus.

Dad just walked out of the house and sat on a chair outside. Mom told the children that she was fine, but her favourite book was torn to pieces. Sibongile started crying and saying it is all her fault that her dad is angry. Thando and mom tried very hard to convince Sibongile that it was not her fault.

Finally, Thando asked Sibongile to go with him to their room to look at something interesting. When they got their room, Thando took out one of mom's magazines and they both lay on the bed and looked at the pictures. There were recipes and pictures of delicious food.

There were also pictures of people doing different jobs. Sibongile was eventually happy looking at the magazine with her brother and they competed on who chose the most delicious foods. Thando said to his sister "I have an idea to help mom and dad. Are you in?" "Yes, of course" said Sibongile happily.

"Okay. Here is the plan; we can cook supper for mom and dad to show them that we love and need them even if they are not going to work. Do you remember their favourite dish?"

"Yes. It is bean stew cooked with bones. We have beans in the cupboard and mom bought bones at the butchery last week" said Sibongile to her brother. "Who will chop the wood for the stove? We are not strong enough."

"You can talk to dad to help us with chopping the wood. You know you are very clever when it comes to talking to him. He always listens to you. I will talk to mom

and ask her how she cooks bean stew" said Thando.

Sibongile and Thando were very happy with their plan. They each went to talk to their parents to ask for help. Mom was happy to tell Thando how she prepares her bean stew. She even helped him write down all the steps to follow. Sibongile took the axe from the woodshed and placed some wood on the chopping stone.

Dad watched as Sibongile struggled with the axe. He came to her and asked, "What are you doing baby?"

Sibongile looked at dad with sad eyes and said "I am not as strong as you dad. I want to chop some wood for the stove so that Thando and I can cook for you and mom."

Dad smiled at Sibongile and said, "I'll help you my princess."

Dad took the axe from Sibongile and started chopping the wood and helped with bringing some coal into the kitchen.

"Mom, you can go and rest. We will do the cooking today" said the children. Finally, the stew was cooked, and the kitchen was smelling good. Dad came into the house and asked the children what was cooking. They told him that it is a surprise.

"Dad, can you help us lay the table please?" Sibongile pleaded with her dad. Dad was very hungry and hurried to set the table. Thando called mom to the kitchen. When all were seated at the table, Thando and Sibongile said grace and opened the pot.

"Wow! It really smells great" said mom and dad at the same time. They all looked at each other and laughed. Mom dished for everyone and the family had a lovely meal.

When they finished eating dad asked mom to help him wash the dishes. As they were washing the dishes, dad apologised to mom for what he did. "I had no right to take out my frustrations on you my love. Can you forgive me please?" Dad said to mom. Mom told dad that she had forgiven him a long time ago. Mom and dad were happy and finished washing the dishes while they were both singing their favourite hymn.

That night Thando and Sibongile asked mom and dad to read them their favourite story of a prince and a princess who overcome many challenges, got married and lived happily ever after. As the children became sleepy, they both said, "We wish mom and dad can also live happily ever after!"

.....
How can you help your family with chores in the house to ensure that everyone feels useful and wanted? Think of what your family members enjoy doing and think of activities that can be done to include these.

Sibongile en Thando help Ma en Pa deur 'n moeilike tyd

Mathabo Khau
Geïllustreer deur Makochieng Gloria

Thando en Sibongile het saam met hul ouers in 'n klein huisie op 'n plattelandse dorpie gewoon. Thando en Sibongile het 'n kamer gedeel, en Ma en Pa het hul eie kamer gehad. Hulle was baie gelukkig as gesin, want Ma en Pa het gesorg dat die kinders se basiese behoeftes nagekom word. Pa het op die myne in die stad naby die dorp gewerk. Ma was 'n onderwyseres by die dorp se laerskool waar Thando en Sibongile leerders was. Thando was baie beskermend teenoor sy klein sussie Sibongile en het gesorg dat hulle daaglik saam na en van die skool stap.

Dit het egter eendag gebeur dat die land gesluit is. Skole, winkels en baie werkplekke is gesluit, en mense is aangese om tuis te bly waar hulle veilig sou wees teen 'n gevaarlike virus.

"Waarom is jy hartseer, my liewe suster?" het Thando gevra. "Hou jy nie meer van my grappies nie?"

"Ek is hartseer omdat ek my skoolvriende mis. Waarom kan ek hulle nie besoek nie?" antwoord Sibongile.

"My suster, ons moet die President respekteer. Tuis bly en almal beskerm sodat ons nie siek word nie," het Thando aan Sibongile gesê.

Die kinders het eendag met 'n legkaart in hul kamer gespeel toe hulle stemme uit hul ouers se kamer hoor. Hulle het stilgebly en geluister na Pa en Ma wat met harde stemme praat.

"Ek is moeg om in my eie huis rond te sit en nutteloos te wees. Ek voel asof niemand my in hierdie huis nodig het nie. Dit is altyd jy en jou kinders wat besig is met boeke en ek kan niks anders doen as om te kyk nie," het Pa gesê en 'n boek na Ma gegooi. Die kinders het 'n harde stamp teen die muur gehoor en gehardloop na

hul ouers se kamer.

Ma het in 'n hoek gekniel waar die boek geval het en die geskeurde bladsye opgetel, met tranes op haar wange. Ma het 'n kneusplek op haar gesig gehad waar die boek haar getref het. Thando en Sibongile was baie hartseer.

"Ma, het jy seer?" "Pappa, het jy Ma seergemaak?" het die kinders in 'n koor gesê.

Pa het net uit die huis gestap en buite op 'n stoel gaan sit. Ma het vir die kinders gesê dat sy reg is, maar haar gunsteling boek was in stukke geskeur. Sibongile het begin huil en gesê dat dit haar skuld was dat haar pa kwaad is. Thando en Ma het baie hard probeer om Sibongile te oortuig dat dit nie haar skuld was nie.

Uiteindelik het Thando Sibongile gevra om saam met hom na hul kamer te gaan om na iets interessants te gaan kyk. Toe hulle by hul kamer kom, haal Thando een van Ma se tydskrifte uit en lê hulle albei op die bed en kyk na die foto's. Daar was resepte en foto's van heerlike kos.

Daar was ook foto's van mense wat verskillende werk verrig. Sibongile was uiteindelik gelukkig om saam met haar broer na die tydskrif te kyk en hulle het meegeding oor wie die lekkerste kos gekies het.

Thando het vir sy suster gesê: "Ek het 'n idee om Ma en Pa te help. Is jy in?" "Ja, natuurlik," sê Sibongile gelukkig.

"Goed. Hier is die plan; ons kan vir Ma en Pa kook om vir hulle te wys dat ons hulle liefhet en nodig het, selfs al gaan hulle nie werk toe nie. Onthou jy hul gunsteling gereg?"

"Ja. Dit is boontjiekook met bene. Ons het boontjies in die kas en ma het verlede week bene by die slaghuus gekoop," het Sibongile aan haar broer gesê. "Wie sal die hout vir die stoof kap? Ons is nie sterk genoeg nie."

"Jy kan met pa praat om ons te help om die hout te



kap. Jy weet jy is baie slim as jy met hom moet praat. Hy luister altyd na jou. Ek sal met Ma praat en haar vra hoe sy boontjiekook," sê Thando.

Sibongile en Thando was baie tevrede met hul plan. Hulle het elkeen met hul ouers gaan praat om hulp te vra. Ma vertel Thando graag hoe sy haar boontjiekook voorberei. Sy het hom selfs gehelp om al die stappe neer te skryf. Sibongile haal die byl van die houtskuur af en plaas hout op die kapsteen.

Pa kyk hoe Sibongile met die byl sukkel. Hy het na haar toe gekom en gevra: "Wat doen jy, baba?"

Sibongile het met hartseer oë na pa gekyk en gesê: "Ek is nie so sterk soos Pa nie. Ek wil hout vir die stoof kap sodat ek en Thando vir jou en Ma kan kook."

Pa glimlag vir Sibongile en sê: "Ek sal jou help, my prinses."

Pa het die byl by Sibongile gevat en die hout begin kap en gehelp om 'n paar kole kombuis toe te bring.

"Ma, jy kan gaan rus. Ons gaan vandag kook," sê die kinders. Uiteindelik was die bredie gaar, en die kombuis het lekker geruik. Pa het die huis binnegekom en die kinders gevra wat kook. Hulle het vir hom gesê dat dit 'n verrassing is.

"Pa, kan jy ons help om die tafel te dek?", het Sibongile by haar pa gepleit. Pa was baie honger en haas

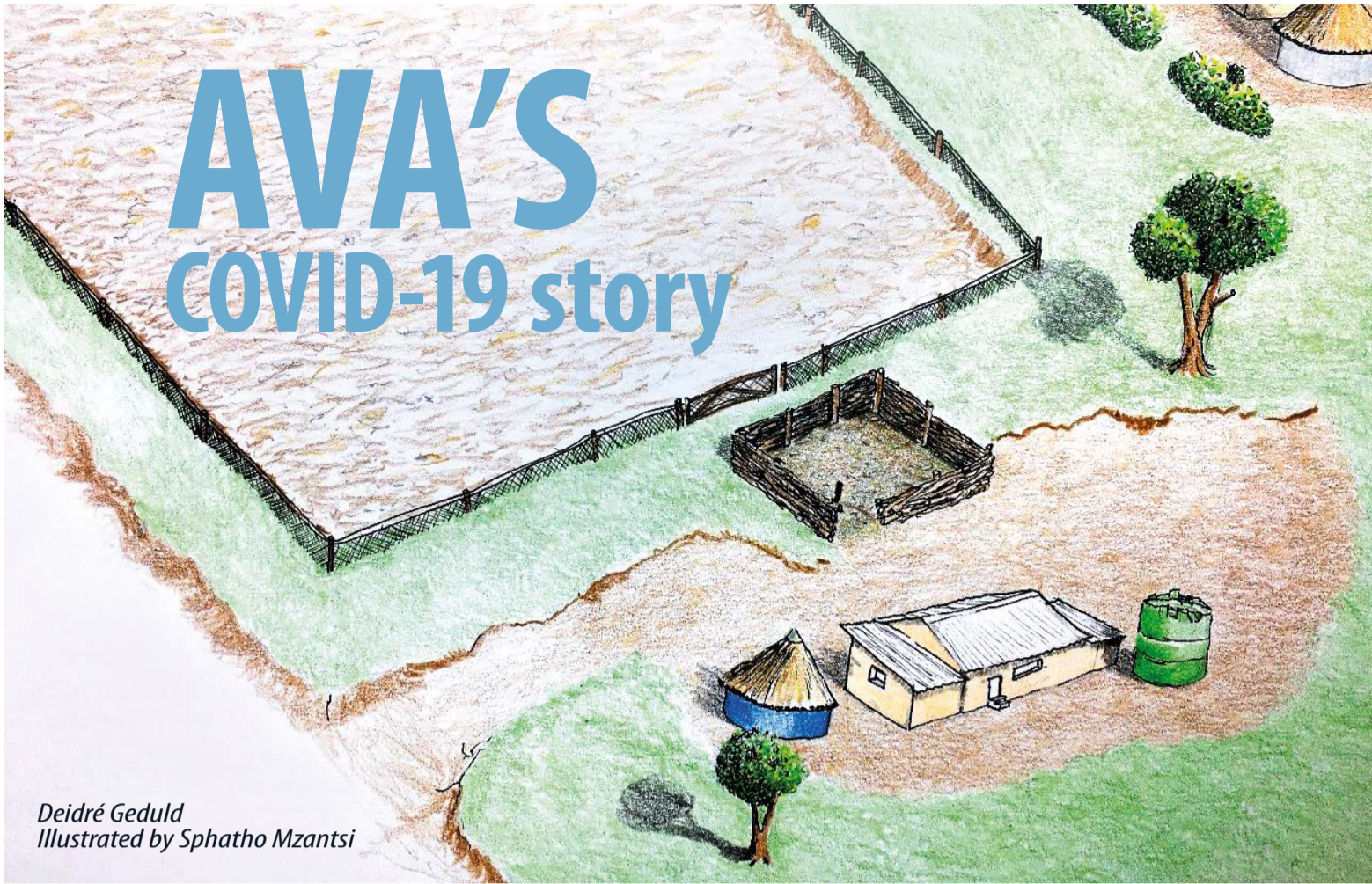
hom om die tafel te dek. Thando het Ma na die kombuis geroep. Toe almal aan tafel sit, sê Thando en Sibongile 'n gebed en maak die pot oop.

"Sjoe! Dit ruik regtig lekker," sê Ma en Pa terselfdertyd. Almal kyk na mekaar en lag. Ma het vir almal geskep en die gesin het 'n heerlike maaltyd geniet. Toe hulle klaar geëet het, het Pa vir Ma gevra om hom te help opwas. Terwyl hulle die skottelgoed was, het Pa vir Ma om verskoning gevra vir wat hy gedoen het. "Ek het geen reg gehad om my frustrasies op jou uit te haal nie, my liefde. Kan jy my asseblief vergewe?" het Pa vir Ma gesê. Ma het vir Pa gesê dat sy hom lankal vergewe het. Ma en Pa was gelukkig en het die skottelgoed gewas terwyl hulle albei hul gunsteling lied gesing het.

Daardie aand het Thando en Sibongile vir Ma en Pa gevra om hul gunsteling verhaal van 'n prins en 'n prinses te lees wat baie uitdagings oorkom, getroud is en 'n gelukkige lewe gelei het. Toe die kinders slaperig word, het hulle albei gesê: "Ons wens dat Ma en Pa ook altyd gelukkig sal wees!"

.....
Hoe kan jy jou gesin help met take in die huis om te verseker dat almal nuttig en gewaardeerd voel? Dink aan wat jou gesinslede geniet om te doen en dink aan aktiwiteite wat julle kan doen om dit in te sluit.

AVA'S COVID-19 story



Deidré Geduld
Illustrated by Sphatho Mzantsi

In a small rural town lived a Mommy and her little girl, Ava. Very few people in the town had televisions, radios or telephones. Suddenly a deadly virus invaded the village.

Then Ava asked her mother, "Mommy, what is this COVID-19? Mommy replied, "Well, Ava, Covid-19 is a deadly disease that is spread by the Corona virus. Right now, the virus is spreading in countries around the world, killing hundreds, even thousands, of people around the world every day.

"But Mommy, what does this have to do with us here

in South Africa?" Well, if we don't do what we should, the virus can affect us as well and even lead to death. That is precisely why everyone in our country is now obliged to stay in our homes until the end of April. No one is allowed to move outside unnecessarily."

"It's not nice at home, Mommy. Why can't we go to school? I can't visit friends or play with my friends. Why are the shops, movies and restaurants all closed? Why would it be wrong if I go to the shops or visit my friends?"

Then Mommy replied, "The answer is simple. The less you interact with many people, the less likely you

are to become ill and possibly infect me and other family members or friends. That way we all stay safe."

"Now how does one become infected with the virus?", Ava asked her Mommy. "The virus is spread through droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes. This is why we are warned to bend our elbow and cough or sneeze into it. Also to use a tissue and immediately throw it in a garbage bin after coughing or sneezing to prevent the virus from spreading," answered Mommy.

"It is also very important that you wash your hands regularly with water and soap for about 20 seconds or

use a disinfectant that kills the germs. We also have to disinfect all areas regularly where we work, as the virus lands on surfaces and then spreads.

If it is imperative for me to leave home to go and buy necessities, I must protect myself by wearing a mask and gloves. This will prevent me from being exposed to the virus."

"My child, do you understand now that the virus spreads more easily when a lot of people are together and that is why we should rather stay home? Do you realise the importance of trying to protect ourselves and our family?", Mommy asked, as she softly stroked Ava's hair.

"However, if you have a dry cough, feel tired or have difficulty breathing, you should tell me immediately so we can call our GP. We also need to share the emergency numbers that appear on TV with our neighbours and friends. Most importantly, staying indoors, washing your hands regularly, covering your mouth when coughing or sneezing and doing everything possible to protect yourself and your family from the virus."

"Mommy, yesterday when I was playing by the big tree at the back, Kara asked me for a piece of bread. Mommy was busy and I gave her one of my sandwiches. Mommy, she never asks me for bread, do you think they don't have bread?"

"These are very difficult times for children and their parents. Many parents cannot go to their workplaces, so they cannot buy food for their families. It was a good deed you did to share with her. I'll also share some of our groceries with her mom later. Fortunately, Grandpa made enough provision for us."

The Corona virus is not a story - it is a reality. You can choose whether you are going to do the right thing and try to protect yourself and your family, or are you going to defy fate and run the risk of becoming infected and perhaps becoming deadly ill or even die. The choice lies with us. Stay safe. Stay inside. Wash your hands regularly. Cough or sneeze in the curve of your elbow. Wear a mask.

Role-play the following scenario:

Your neighbours want you to come and visit them during lockdown. Every day you hear that your neighbour has a nasty cough and sneezes. How do you decline the invitation without offending them?

Discuss it as a family and decide how you will handle it. Role play your reactions during the discussion.

AVA SE COVID-19 storie

Deidré Geduld
Geïllustreerd deur Sphatho Mzantsi

In 'n klein plattelandse dorpie het 'n Mamma en haar dogtertjie Ava gewoon. Baie min mense het in die dorpie het televisie, radio's of telefone gehad. Ewe skielik het 'n dodelike virus die dorpie oorval.

Toe vra Ava aan haar ma: "Mamma, wat vir 'n ding is die COVID-19? Mamma antwoord toe: "Wel Ava, Covid-19 is 'n dodelike siekte wat deur die Koronavirus versprei word. Op die oomblik versprei die virus in lande regoor die wereld en sterf daar elke dag honderde, selfs duisende mense wêreldwyd.

"Maar Mamma, wat het dit met ons hier in Suid Afrika te doen?" Wel, as ons nie doen wat ons moet nie, kan die virus ook ons raak en selfs lei tot die dood. Dit is juis die rede waarom almal in ons land nou verplig is om in ons huise te bly tot die einde van April. Niemand mag onnodig buite rond beweeg nie."

"Dit is nie lekker by die huis nie Mamma. Hoekom kan ons nie skool toe gaan nie? Ek kan nie by vriende gaan kuier of by maatjies gaan speel nie. Hoekom is die winkels, fliëks en restaurante almal toe? Hoe sal dit nou verkeerd wees as ek winkels toe gaan of by my maatjies gaan kuier?"

Toe antwoord Mamma: "Die antwoord is eenvoudig. Hoe minder jy met baie mense in aanraking kom, hoe skraler is die kans dat jy ook siek kan raak en dalk ook my en ander familieleden of maatjies besmet. Sodoende bly ons almal veilig."

"Nou hoe word 'n mens besmet met die virus?" vra Ava haar mamma. "Die virus word deur middel van druppels versprei wanneer 'n besmette persoon hoë of nies. Dit is die rede dat ons gewaarsku word om ons elmbuig te buig en daarin te hoë of nies. Ook om 'n sneesdoekie te gebruik en dit onmiddellik in 'n vullisblik te gooi nadat ek gehoë of genies het om te keer dat die

virus versprei word" antwoord Mamma.

"Dit is ook baie belangrik dat jy gereeld jou hande met water en seep was vir ongeveer 20 sekondes of 'n ontsmetmiddel wat die kieme doodmaak, gebruik. Ons moet ook gereeld alle areas waarop ons werk ontsmet, aangesien die virus op oppervlaktes beland en dan sodoende versprei word.

Indien dit uiters noodsaaklik is vir my om die huis te verlaat om noodsaaklikhede te gaan koop, moet ek myself beskerm deur 'n masker en handskoene te dra. Dit sal verhoed dat ek aan die virus blootgestel word."

"Verstaan jy nou my kind dat die virus makliker versprei as 'n klomp mense bymekaar is en dit is waarom ons eerder moet by die huis bly. Besef jy hoe belangrik dit is om onself en ons familie te probeer beskerm?" vra Mamma, terwyl sy saggies oor Ava se hare streek.

"As jy egter n droë hoësie het, moeg voel of moeilik asemhaal, moet jy my onmiddellik vertel sodat ons ons huisdokter kan bel. Ons moet ook die noodnommers wat op TV verskyn met ons bure en maatjies deel. Die belangrikste van alles is om binnenshuis te bly, gereeld hande te was, jou mond te bedek as jy hoë of nies en alles moontlik te doen om jouself en jou familie teen die virus te beskerm."

"Mamma, gister toe ek by die groot boom agter speel het Kara by my 'n stukkie brood gevra. Mamma was besig en ek het haar een van my toebroodjies gegee. Mamma sy vra nooit by my brood nie, dink Mamma hulle het nie brood nie?"

"Hierdie is baie moeilike tye vir kinders en hul ouers. Baie ouers kom nie by hul werksplekke uit nie dus kan hulle nie kos vir hul gesinne koop nie. Dit was 'n goeie daad wat jy gedoen het om met haar te deel. Ek sal ook later van ons kruideniersware met haar mamma deel. Gelukkig het Oupa vir ons baie goed voorsiening gemaak."



Die Koronavirus is nie net 'n storie nie - dit is n'n werklikheid. Jy kan kies - gaan jy die regte ding doen en jouself en jou familie probeer beskerm, of gaan jy die noodlot uittart en die gevaar loop om besmet te word en dalk dodelik siek te word of selfs sterf. Die keuse lê by ons. Bly veilig. Bly binne. Was jou hande gereeld. Hoë of nies in die krom van jou elmbuig. Dra 'n masker.

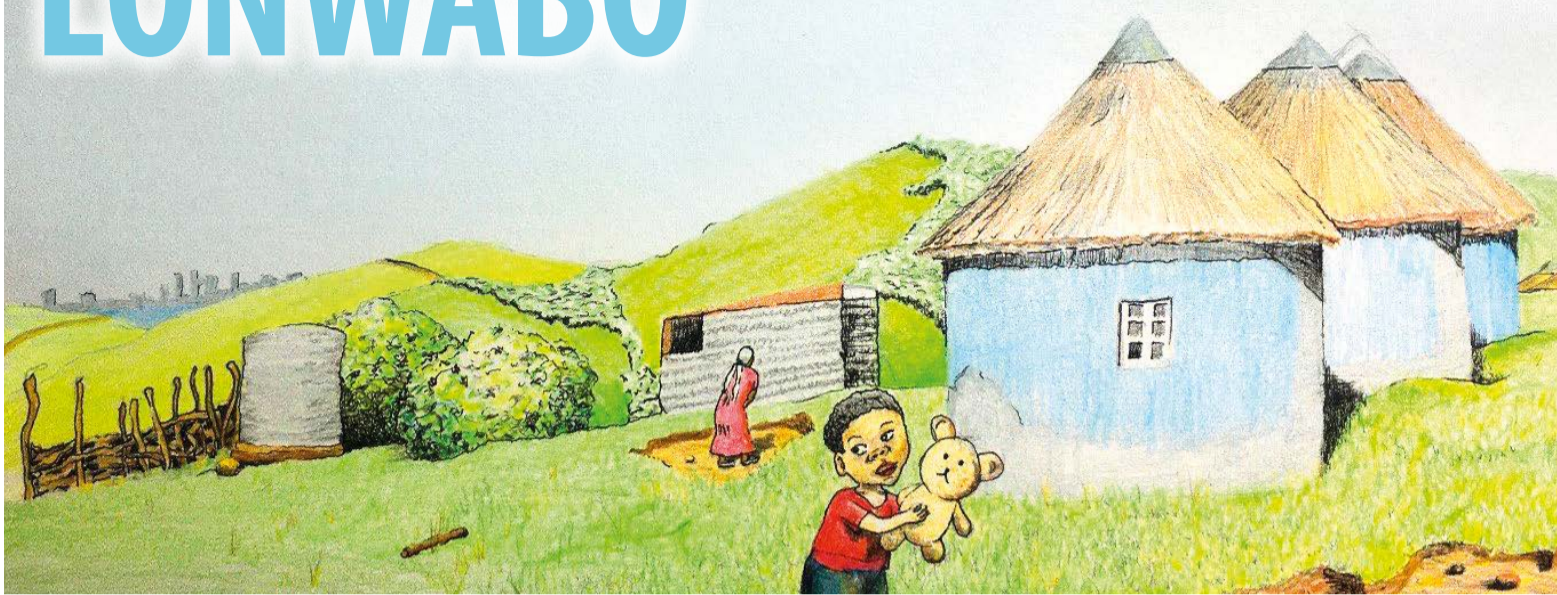
Rolspeel die volgende scenario:

Julle bure wil hê dat julle by hulle moet kom kuier tydens die inperking. Julle hoor elke dag hoe lelik julle buurman hoë en nies. Hoe gemaak om die uitnodiging van die hand te wys sonder dat hulle aanstoot neem?

As gesin bespreek julle dit en besluit hoe julle dit gaan hanteer. Rolspeel julle reaksies tydens die bespreking.

A special boy named LONWABO

Nokhanyo Mdzanga
Illustrated by Sphatho Mzantsi



There was once a boy named Lonwabo. He stayed with his grandmother, Gogo Mantle, because his parents worked out of town. They often visited him at the end of each month. Lonwabo's grandmother always tells his neighbours about the day his grandson was born. She was so excited, as a result, she named him Lonwabo- which means 'the one who brings happiness'. However, Lonwabo was different to other children. His granny couldn't put her finger on it, but little things about his development bothered her. Everytime Lonwabo's parents came home, she would tell them about her concerns. Gogo Mantle had raised other grandchildren before including children from her neighbourhood. She knew about the stages of child development, but Lonwabo was different. Gogo noticed that Lonwabo was not crawling well, babbling, climbing stairs, jumping, kicking or throwing things. But she kept on telling herself that he was just delayed.

When Lonwabo was a year old, he still could not walk. One day, Gogo Mantle took him to see a paediatrician who later referred her to a clinical psychologist. The problem was that the hospital was far away, therefore Gogo had to wait for Lonwabo's parents to return home so that they could take him to a psychologist. Gogo was hopeful that his grandson was just delayed.

When Lonwabo's parents returned from the doctor, Gogo noticed that they were sad. Upon enquiry, they eventually told Gogo that Lonwabo was born with a condition called Autism. Gogo did not know what the condition was in her home language. As they were explaining based on Gogo's observations of Lonwabo's behaviour and milestones, she could understand.

Many people in the neighbourhood always wanted

to know what Lonwabo was suffering from. Gogo decided to approach the chief in the village to ask him to call Imbizo so that she could educate the villagers about signs of Autism.

At this stage she had observed Lonwabo's behaviour and has also been educated about Autism by a social worker who consistently visited Gogo and Lonwabo. She was so thrilled to learn that the chief has agreed to her request. On a particular Saturday, Gogo left to the chief's homestead. Many people, young and old came. Most of them were women who stayed with children.

Gogo explained the signs of Autism in children as follows:

- Ukungayiqapheli ingozi (unaware of danger)
- Ukubuva kakhulu/kancinci ubuhlungu (over/under sensitive to pain)
- Usenokungafuni ukujongana ngqo emehlweni nabanye (avoid eye contact)
- Usenokukhetha ukuba yedwa (prefer to be alone)
- Ukungafuni ukwahlukana nezinto (attachment to objects)
- lintshukumo eziphindaphindwayo (repetitive movements)
- Usenokunyanzelisa inkqubo yesiqhelo (insists on routines)
- UkuPhazamiseka kweNkqubo yemizwa (sensory processing disorder)
- Usenokuphelelwa ngamandla engqondo ngenxa yokuxinana kokufundwe ngaxeshanye (meltdowns due to sensory overload)
- Ubunzima ukuqonda izikhokelo ezisetyenziswayo ngabanye (sometimes, doesn't follow instructions)
- Usenokungathandi ukuphathwa okanye ukwangiwa (doesn't like to be touched or hugged)

- Usenokuba nomdla kwizinto ezikhethekileyo. (has certain preferences or interests)

Some of the people who attended Imbizo heard about Autism for the first time but could identify with the signs that Gogo was referring to. She advised them to see a paediatrician. From that day onwards, Gogo learnt more about Lonwabo's strengths and the social worker also provided her with more information. Gogo also noticed that Lonwabo was non-verbal but soon they developed their own language. Lonwabo's parents were jealous because they could not communicate with their son.

Whilst Gogo was still at home, she learnt that there is a virus that makes people sick. As a result, schools, businesses, infact the whole country was not operating. She found solace in the fact that radio and TV were operational. Gogo was made aware that staying at home, keeping a distance between people, washing hands with soap and water would keep every safe and healthy against the virus. Lonwabo's parents could not travel to their home as transport was not operating, so Gogo stayed alone with Lonwabo. Since Lonwabo was non-verbal, Gogo used pictures and other visuals to communicate with him. She knew that she would have to be creative in order to inform his grandson about the virus and also adhering to precautionary measures.

Lonwabo did not like confined spaces. He enjoyed walking with his granny to the shop. Gogo was worried that because of the lockdown, they would not be able to walk to their favourite shop. Gogo decided to teach Lonwabo a game that will force him to walk around the house. Gogo would hide Lonwabo's favourite toy somewhere in the house, sometimes, behind the

house. Together, they would look for this toy. In that way, Lonwabo was not stifled in one place. He enjoyed the moments when they looked for the toy outside the house because that gave him opportunity to smell the air and walk around outside of the house.

Lonwabo enjoyed washing hands even before the Corona virus. Gogo had taught him to scoop water from the bucket using his favourite mug, get a soap from the cupboard and pouring water in a washing basin. He enjoyed making bubbles so it was not difficult to continue with washing hands. Everytime they washed hands Gogo would be singing to him. He always giggled at Gogo's songs. Gogo was sad that she did not have pictures of children washing hands because Lonwabo's parents would have brought such pictures.

Gogo was not worried about social distancing because Lonwabo preferred to stay alone in any case. He did not like to be touched or hugged. He preferred to play alone and was not good with games that required joint attention. Lonwabo's mother had tried to play 'touch' game with him. Lonwabo wanted her mom to run after him and not the other way round.

Gogo really struggled with teaching Lonwabo how to put on a mask. After 21 days the social worker came to visit Gogo and Lonwabo. His parents also could come home as there was a window period for them to travel. They brought along some masks for Gogo and Lonwabo. They also brought along some newspapers showing people wearing masks. Lonwabo did not like wearing shoes or tight fitting pants, so Gogo was wondering how he would get him to wear a face mask.

Lonwabo's mum suggested to Gogo that they should create a game where all adults would be wearing masks for a certain period during the day. His mom thought that by becoming familiar with the habit, he might be curious to do the same. Gogo also thought that when walking to the shop with him, she must insist on wearing the mask.

This has been difficult for Lonwabo to do. Gogo is now putting the mask over Lonwabo's favourite teddy bear's mouth so that Lonwabo could realise that he is the only one in the house who is not wearing a mask. Gogo has now decided that he will not walk to the shop with Lonwabo until he is familiar with wearing the mask.

When Gogo is alone, she is thinking of the other parents who are raising children like Lonwabo. She then asks her daughter to communicate via WhatsApp or sms to other parents. She shares instructions about games that parents could play with their children, advise them to use pictures or visuals and clear language to communicate about COVID 19 and what needs to be done; and follow the child's lead with regard to their routines and speak to other parents who are raising children with Autism. Right now, Lonwabo is happy to see his parents, but Gogo feels that he might be wondering why everybody is at home and that he cannot walk with Gogo to his favourite shop. Gogo encourages all parents with children with Autism to make visuals that will communicate information about COVID19.

Design pictures/visuals that can help a child like Lonwabo to learn about COVID-19.

'n Spesiale seun genaamd LONWABO

Nokhanyo Mdzanga
Geïllustreerd deur Sphatho Mzantsi

Eendag was daar 'n seun genaamd Lonwabo. Hy het by sy Ouma, Gogo Mantie, gewoon omdat sy ouers in die stad gewerk het. Hulle het hom gereeld aan die einde van die maand besoek. Lonwabo se Ouma vertel altyd vir die bure van die dag toe haar kleinseun gebore is. Sy was so opgewonde en gevolglik het sy hom Lonwabo genoem, wat 'die een wat geluk bring' beteken. Lonwabo was egter anders as ander kinders. Sy Ouma kon nie vas stel wat presies anders aan hom was nie, maar daar was klein dingetjies van sy ontwikkeling wat haar gepla het. Elke keer wanneer Lonwabo se ouers huis toe gekom het, het sy haar bekommernis met hulle gedeel. Gogo Mantie het vantevore ander klein kindertjies, insluitend kinders van haar buurt, help grootmaak. Sy was bewus van die ontwikkelingsfasies van 'n kind, maar Lonwabo was anders. Gogo het opgelet dat Lonwabo nie reg kruip nie, babbel, trappe klim, spring en het objekte geskop of gegooi. Maar sy het aangehou om vir haarself te sê dat sy ontwikkeling net vertraag is. Toe Lonwabo een jaar oud was, kon hy steeds nie loop nie.

Eendag het Gogo Mantie hom na 'n kinderarts geneem wat hom na 'n sielkundige verwys het. Die probleem was egter dat die hospitaal ver van die huis af was en dat Gogo vir Lonwabo se ouers moes wag om huis toe te kom sodat hulle hom na die sielkundige kan neem. Gogo was hoopvol dat haar kleinseun se ontwikkeling net vertraag was.

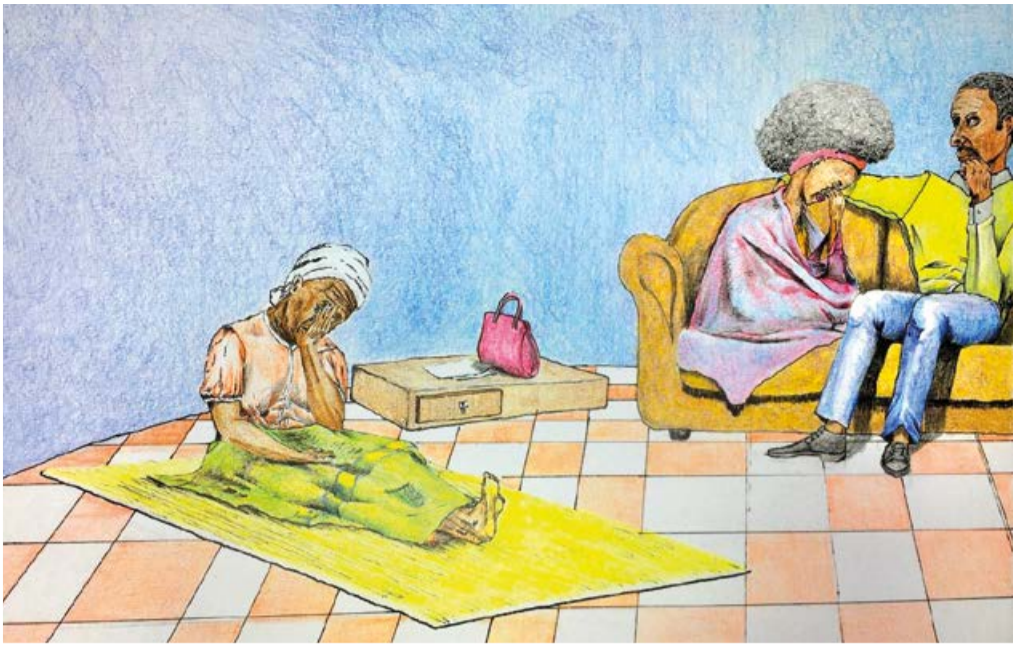
Toe Lonwabo se ouers van die sielkundige teruggekeer het, het sy opgelet dat hulle hartseer was. Nadat sy uitgevra het, het hulle haar vertel dat Lonwabo met 'n toestand gebore is naamlik outisme. Gogo het nie geweet wat die toestand in haar huistaal genoem word nie. Soos hulle verduidelik het, gebaseer op Gogo se waarnemings van Lonwabo se ontwikkelingsmylpale, het sy verstaan. Baie mense in die buurt wou altyd weet waaraan Lonwabo gely het. Gogo het besluit om die Hoofman in die dorpie te nader en hom gevra om 'n Imbizo byeen te roep sodat sy die dorpenaars oor kenmerke en tekens van outisme kon opvoed. Teen hierdie tyd het sy Lonwabo se gedrag waargeneem en is ook oor outisme opgevoed deur 'n maatskaplike werker wat gereeld vir haar en Lonwabo besoek het. Sy was ekstasies om te hoor dat die Hoofman haar versoek



toegestaan het. Op 'n spesifieke Saterdag het Gogo die Hoofman se kraal besoek. Baie mense, jonk en oud, het opgedaag. Gogo het die tekens van outisme by kinders soos volg verduidelik:

- Onbewus van gevaar
- Oor- of ondersensitief vir pyn
- Vermoed oogkontak
- Verkies om alleen te wees
- Raak geheg aan voorwerpe
- Herhalende bewegings

- Dring aan op roetine
 - Sensoriese sensivering is problematies
 - Kan oorweldig word deur sensoriese oorstimulering
 - Volg somtyds nie instruksies nie
 - Hou nie daarvan om aangeraak of gedruk te word nie
 - Het sekere voorkeure of belangstellings
- Sommige van die mense wat die Imbizo bygewoon het, het vir die eerste keer van outisme gehoor en kon nie van die tekens waarna Gogo verwys het, identifiseer



nie. Sy het hulle aangeraai om 'n kinderarts te raadpleeg. Vanaf daardie dag het Gogo oor Lonwabo se sterkpunte geleer en die maatskaplike werker het haar ook van meer inligting voorsien. Gogo het ook waargeneem dat Lonwabo nie-verbaal is, maar blitsvinnig het hulle hul eie taal ontwikkel. Lonwabo se ouers was jaloers aangesien hulle nie met hulle seun kon kommunikeer nie.

Terwyl Gogo by die huis was, het sy geleer dat daar 'n virus is wat mense siek maak. Gevolglik het skole, besighede en die hele land nie gefunksioneer nie. Sy het troos gevind in die feit dat die radio en televisie operasioneel was. Gogo was bewus gemaak dat deur tuis te bly, 'n afstand tussen mense te handhaaf en deur hande met water en seep te was, almal veilig en gesond sal hou en teen die virus sal beskerm. Lonwabo se ouers kon nie na hul reis nie aangesien die vervoerdienste nie operasioneel was nie en gevolglik het Gogo alleen by Lonwabo gebly. Aangesien Lonwabo nie-verbaal was, het Gogo prentjies en ander visuele materiaal gebruik om met hom te kommunikeer. Sy het gewet dat sy kreatief te werk sal moes gaan om haar kleinsun oor die virus in te lig en aan die voorkomingsmaatreëls te voldoen.

Lonwabo het nie van ingeperkte spasies gehou nie. Hy het dit geniet om saam met sy ouma na die winkel te stap. Gogo was bekommerd dat hulle weens die inperking nie na hul gunsteling winkel sou kon stap nie. Gogo het besluit om vir Lonwabo 'n nuwe speletjie te leer wat hom sal dwing om in die huis rond te loop. Gogo sou Lonwabo se gunsteling speelding iewers in die huis, soms selfs agter die huis, wegsteek. Saam sou hul dan na sy speelding soek. Op hierdie wyse is Lonwabo nie op een plek vasgevang nie. Hy het die tye waartydens hulle buite die huis na sy speelding sou soek geniet aangesien dit aan hom die geleentheid gebied het om die vars lug te ruik en om buite die huis rond te loop.

Lonwabo het dit selfs voor die Koronavirus geniet om sy hande te was. Gogo het hom geleer om water uit die emmer met sy gunsteling beker te skep, seep uit die kas te haal en die water in 'n wasbak te gooi. Hy het dit geniet om borrels te maak en dit was dus nie moeilik vir hom om aan te hou om sy hande te was nie. Elke keer wanneer hulle hande gewas het, het Gogo vir hulle gesing. Hy het altyd vir Gogo se liedjies gegiggel. Gogo was hartseer dat sy nie prentjies gehad het van kinders wat hulle hande was nie aangesien Lonwabo se ouers sulke prentjies sou bring.

Gogo was nie bekommerd oor sosiale distansiëring

nie aangesien Lonwabo verkies het om alleen te wees. Hy het nie daarvan gehou om aangeraak of gedruk te word nie. Hy het verkies om alleen te speel en was nie goed met speletjies wat gesamentlike aandag geveer het nie. Lonwabo se ma het probeer om 'n 'raak'-speletjie met hom te speel. Lonwabo wou egter gehad het dat sy ma agter hom moes aanhardloop en nie andersom nie.

Gogo het gesukkel om Lonwabo te leer hoe om 'n gesigmasker op te sit. Na 21 dae het die maatskaplike werker Lonwabo en sy ouma besoek. Sy ouers kon ook huis toe kom aangesien daar 'n vensterperiode was waartydens reise onderneem kon word. Hulle het 'n paar maskers vir Gogo en Lonwabo saamgebring. Hulle het ook 'n paar koerante saamgebring wat wys hoe mense maskers dra. Lonwabo het nie daarvan gehou om skoene of noupassende broeke te dra nie so Gogo het gewonder hoe sy hom sover kon kry om 'n masker te dra. Lonwabo se ma het aan Gogo voorgestel dat hulle 'n speletjie speel waartydens almal tydens 'n sekere deel van die dag gesigmaskers dra. Sy ma was van mening dat deur 'n gewoonte te skep, hy nuuskierig oor die idee sou raak. Gogo het ook gedink dat wanneer hulle saam na die winkel stap, sy moet aandring dat hy die masker dra. Dit was moeilik vir Lonwabo om te doen. Gogo het nou die gesigmasker oor Lonwabo se gunsteling teddiebeer se gesig gesit sodat hy kon sien dat hy die enigste een in die huis was wat nie 'n masker dra nie. Gogo het toe besluit dat sy nie saam met Lonwabo na die winkel sou stap totdat hy gewoon is om 'n masker te dra nie.

Wanneer Gogo alleen is, dink sy aan ander ouers wat kinders soos Lonwabo grootmaak. Dan vra sy haar dogter om via WhatsApp of SMS met ander ouers te kommunikeer. Sy deel instruksies oor speletjies wat ouers met hulle kinders kan speel, gee raad oor die wyse waarop prente en visuele materiaal vir kommunikasiedoeleindes oor Covid-19 gebruik kan word en wat gedoen moet word asook om die kind toe te laat om 'n roetine te volg en met ander ouers wat outistiese kinders grootmaak te gesels. Op die oomblik is Lonwabo gelukkig om sy ouers te sien, maar Gogo is van mening dat hy dalk mag wonder waarom almal tuis is en waarom hy nie saam met haar na sy gunsteling winkel mag stap nie. Gogo raai alle ouers met outistiese kinders aan om visuele materiaal te gebruik om inligting rondom Covid-19 aan hulle oor te dra.

Ontwerp prentjies/visuele prente wat 'n kind soos Lonwabo kan help om oor COVID-19 te leer.

Inkwenkwe ekhethekileyo egama linguLonwabo

Nokhanyo Mdzanga
Imizobo nguSphatho Mzantsi

Kwakhe kwakho inkwenkwe egama layo yayinguLonwabo. Yayihlala nomakhulu wayo, uGogo Mantle, ngenxa yokuba abazali bayo babesebenza ngaphandle kwedolophu. Babedla ngokuyihambela rhoqo ngeempela nyanga. Umakhulu kaLonwabo wayesoloko wabalisele abamelwane bakhe ngemini awathi wazalwa ngayo uLonwabo. Kangangemincili awayenayo, wathiywa igama lokuba nguLonwabo – elithetha 'lowo uzisa ulonwabo'. Kodwa ke, uLonwabo wayohlukile kwabanye abantwana. Umakhulu wakhe wayengakwazi ukubona ukuba kanye kanye yintoni ingxaki, kodwa kwakukho izinto ezincinane ekukhuleni ezazimkhathaza. Ngamaxesha onke xa abazali bakhe befika ekhaya, wayebaxelela ngenkxalabo yakhe. UGogo Mantle wayekhulise abantwana ngaphambili abaquka nabasebumelwaneni. Wayesazi ngamabakala okukhula komntwana, kodwa uLonwabo wayohlukile. UGogo waqaphela ukuba uLonwabo, ngokwamabakala okukhula komntwana, wayohlukile. UGogo waqaphela ukuba uLonwabo wayengagaqi kakuhle, engabhibidli, enganambeli izitepsi, engaxhuma-xhumi, engakhabi okanye ajule izinto. Kodwa wahlala ezixelela ukuba yayikukulibaziseka nje. Xa uLonwabo wayenonyaka ubudala, wayengekakwazi ukuhamba. Ngenye imini umakhulu wakhe wamsa kugqirha wabantwana, owathi emva kwethuba wamdulisela kugqirha wonyango lwengqondo. Ingxaki yayiyeyokuba isibhedlela sasikude, ngoko ke kwakufuneka alinde abazali bakaLonwabo babuye ukuze bamse kugqirha wengqondo. UGogo wayenethemba lokuba umzukulwana wakhe wayelibaziseke nje okwethutyana.

Ekubuyeni kwabazali bakaLonwabo kwagqirha, UGogo waqaphela ukuba balusizi. Ekubeni ebuzile, bamxelela ukuba uLonwabo wazalwa nemeko ekuthiwa yi-Autism. UGogo wayengayazi ukuba le meko kuthiwa yintoni ngolwakhe ulwimi. Njengoko babecacisa besu-

sela kwinkcaza kamakhulu malunga nesimo sikaLonwabo kunye nemigomo yakhe, waba nokuqonda. Abantu abaninzi ebumelwaneni babesoloko befuna ukuqonda ukuba uLonwabo wayegula yintoni na. UGogo wagqiba kwelokuba makaye enkosini yelali ayicele ibize imbizo ukuze afundise abantu belali ngeempawu zeAutism. Kwesi sithuba wayesele esiqapheli isimo sikaLonwabo kwaye efundisiwe ngeAutism nguNontlalontle owayethe rhoqo ebavelela uGogo noLonwabo. Waba nemikhulu imincili akuba inkosi yayisamkele isicelo sakhe. NgaMgqibelo uthile, uGogo wanduluka ukuya komkhulu. Abantu abaninzi, abancinane nabadala bagaleleka. Inkoliso yabo yayingoomama abahlala nabantwana. UGogo wachaza iimpawu zeAutism ebantwaneni ngale ndlela ilandelayo:

- Ukungayiqapheli ingozi (unaware of danger)
- Ukubuya kakhulu/kancinci ubuhlungu (over/under sensitive to pain)
- Usenokungafuni ukujongana ngqo emehlweni nabanye (avoid eye contact)
- Usenokukhetha ukuba yedwa (prefer to be alone)
- Ukungafuni ukwahlukana nezinto (attachment to objects)
- Iintshukumo eziphindaphindwayo (repetitive movements)
- Usenokunyanzelisa inkqubo yesiqhelo (insists on routines)
- UkuPhazamiseka kweNkqubo yemizwa (sensory processing disorder)
- Usenokuphelelwa ngamandla engqondo ngenxa yokuxinana kokufundwe ngaxesha-nye (meltdowns due to sensory overload)
- Ubunzima ukuqonda izikhokelo ezisetyenziswayo ngabanye (sometimes, doesn't follow instructions)
- Usenokungathandi ukuphathwa okanye ukwangiwa (doesn't like to be touched or hugged)
- Usenokuba nomdla kwizinto ezikhethekileyo (has certain preferences or interests)



Abanye babantu ababeyembizweni babesiva okokuqala nge-Autism kodwa babeziqonda ezi mpawu uGogo wayethetha ngazo. Wabacebisa ukuba maba-bonane nogqirha wabantwana. Ukusukela ngaloo mini ukubheka phambili, uGogo wafunda nangaphezulu ngemiba yokomelela kukaLonwabo yaye noNontlalontle wamnika ulwazi olungaphezulu. UGogo wahle waqaphela ukuba uLonwabo wayengakwazi ukuthetha kodwa bakhawuleza bafumana eyabo indlela yokuthetha. Abazali bakaLonwabo babenomona kuba babengakwazi ukuqhagamshelana nonyana wabo.

Ngexesha uGogo wayesekhaya, weva ukuba kukho ivayirasi eyenza abantu bagule. Loo nto yenza ukuba izikolo, amashishini, eneneni ilizwe lonke lingasebenzi. Wafumana intuthuzelo xa unomathotholo nomabonakude babesebenza. UGogo waziswa ukuba ukuhlala ekhaya, ukugcina umgama phakathi kwabantu, ukuhlamba izandla ngesephu nangamanzi kwakunokubagcina abantu bekhuselekile kule vayirasi, besempilweni. Abazali bakaLonwabo zange bakwazi ukugoduka kuba izithuthi zazingasebenzi, ngoko ke

uGogo wahlala yedwa ekhaya noLonwabo. Ngenxa yokuba uLonwabo wayengakwazi ukuthetha, uGogo wasebenzisa imifanekiso nezinye izinto ezibonakalayo ukuqhagamshelana naye. Wayesazi ukuba kuza kufuneka ecinge amacebo amatsha ukuze akwazi ukumazisa umzukulwamna wakhe ngale vayirasi nokulandela iindlela zokuthintela.

U Lonwabo wayengazithandi iindawo ezivalelekileyo. Wayethanda ukuhamba nomakhulu wakhe ukuya evenkileni. UGogo wayenexhala lokuba ngenxa kamakungaphunywa, babengazi kukwazi ukuhamba baye kwivenkile abayithandayo. UGogo wagqiba ukuba amfundise uLonwabo umdlalo oya kumnyanzela ukuba ahamba-hambe apha endlwini. UGogo wayefihla ithoyi kaLonwabo ayithandayo ndaweni ithile apha endlwini, ngamanye amaxesha, emva kwendlu. Bekunye, babeyikhangelale le thoyi kuba oko kwakumnika ithuba lokusezela umoya ahambe ajikeleze indlu.

U Lonwabo wayekuthanda ukuhlamba izandla nangaphambi kokuba kufike ivayirasi yeCorona. UGogo wayemfundise ukukha amanzi e-emeleni esebenzisa

Motataisi oa kamehla

Muki Moeng
e ts'oants'isitsoe ke Sphatho Mzantsi

"Maletsatsi oe, Maletsatsi! Ha o utloe kea o bitsa?"

Nkhono 'Maletsatsi u mo bitsa kamehla pele let-satsi le likela, nakong eo a ntseng a bapala le met-soalle ea hae. Lipapali li ne li eba monate haholo nakong eo 'Maletsatsi a lokelang ho ea lapeng.

'Maletsatsi ene ele mosetsana ea lulang le nkho. U ne a rata ho bapala le metsoalle ea hae e lulang pel'a habo. 'Me' ua 'Maletsatsi u ile a hlokahala lilemo tse peli tse fetileng kotsing ea koloi a etsoa mosebetsing. E ne ele mosebelletsi oa tlhabollo ea sechaba, a rata ho thusa batho ha hlokang ka lijo le liaparo. 'Maletsatsi u ne a natefelo ke ho etela malapa a hlokang le 'me' oa hae khoeli e 'ngoe le e 'ngoe ho ba isetsa lijo le liaparo. U hopola ka mokhoa oo a neng a rata ho botsa 'me' oa hae lipotso tse ngata, joale ka hore na hobaneng a thusa batho ba hlokang. Ha asa hopola hantle hore na 'me' ua hae karabo ea hae e ne ele efe, empa u hopola ka ho hlaka tsela eo 'me' ua hae a neng a ikutloa kateng leetong le leng le leng. 'Me' u ne a bina abile a apeha a khotsofetse.

"Nkhono!" ho araba 'Maletsatsi. "Hobaneng u rata ho mpitsa tje Nkhono?" Nkhono 'Maletsatsi a mo kharumela a mo bolella hore u leka ho mo holisa hantle, kahona u ts'oanela ho mo mamela. Nkhono a boela a hlalosa hore ho na le mosebetsi eo 'Maletsatsi a ts'oanelang ho e phetha pele letsatsi le likela, joale ka ho koala lifensetere le likharatene, a khants'e mabone le ho phetha mosebetsi oa sekolo. "Ke mosebetsi ea hao ena lelapeng lena. Ha hona motho e mong eka e phethang ntle le oena. Baholoane ba hao ba etsa bonnete ba hore ho hloekile ka tlung le hore hona le metsi. Ha ke etsoa mosebetsing ke hloka ho phomola pele nka apeha le ho sheba na o phethile mosebetsi oa sekolo ka makhethe."

'Maletsatsi u ile a utloa bohloko ha a utloa tsena hobane a hlokometse hore nkho ha a ea thaba.

Nkhono ha a koate habonolo. Ke motho ea lerato, ea tsotellang batho ba bang. Ha likolo li koetsoe, 'Maletsatsi u ne a rata ho chakela ha nkho hobane teng metsoalle ea hae e bolokollohing ba ho bapala tseleng kantle. Ha ho ts'oane le teropong moo 'Maletsatsi a neng a lula teng. Metseng ea literopo, ho bapalla tseleng kantle ha ho ea lumelleha. Ngoana e mong le e mong u bapalla jareteng ea habo eseng kantle ho eona. Baholoane ba hae ha ba thabele ho bapala le eena hobane ba baholoanyane. Kahona, 'Maletsatsi u ne a bapala ka lipopi tsa hae, a shebella lipale tsa kalaneng kapa a bapala ka fono ea hae.

Empa kajeno, nkho u koatile haholo. Sena se utloisa 'Maletsatsi bohloko. Ha a utloile bohloko, 'Maletsatsi u hopola letsatsi leo malome oa hae a ileng a fihla ntlong ea habo a utloile bohloko. Ho thata ho lebala letsatsi leo. 'Maletsatsi u sitoa ho lebala tsela eo a ileng a ikutloa ka eona ha a utloa hore 'me' oa hae o hloka hetsa kotsing ea koloi. Hangata ha malome a chakile, ho ne ho eba monate hobane u ne a etla le lipompong, likuku, le senoa-mapholi. Khetlong leno, ho ne ho fetohile. E bile letsatsi le bohloko ho boohle. Ka mor'a ho utloa litaba tsa lefu la 'me' oa hae, 'Maletsatsi u ile a utloa eka nako le lefats'e li emisitse. Malome u ile a leka ho ba sebetse empa mahlo a hae a ne a tletse bohloko. Baholoane ba 'Maletsatsi ba ne ba sitoa ho thiba selo sa bona.

'Maletsatsi u ile a bolella nkho hore u masoabi ka seo a se entseng. Ho tloha nakong eo, a phetha mosebetsi eohle ea hae ka nako e ts'oanetseng pele letsatsi le likela.

Kaha 'Maletsatsi a ne a rata hore nkho a thabe joale ka 'me' oa hae, a itjoetsa hore u tla boloka chelete eo nkho a mo fang eona hore a tle a tsebe ho rekela bahloki lijo. 'Maletsatsi u ile a hlokomela liaparo tsa hae ho etsa bonnete ba hore ha li se li le nyenyane a tle a fane ka tsona ho batho ba li hlokang.

O ithutle eng paleng ee?
Ke eng eo ka e etsang ho thusa batho ba motse oa haeno?



SURVIVAL OF COMMUNITIES DURING THE PANDEMIC

N. Gedze, N. Mntwini, T. Chizu
Illustrated by Sanelisiwe Singaphi

1ST LEARNER

I am Onako, a girl living in 5 Ways Port Elizabeth with my big sister and her 1-year-old baby. My big sister is an Intern at a Bookkeeping company that is BBEE owned. Our parents are both in a small rural village in Sterkspruit. My big sister is the breadwinner, she feeds for us in Port Elizabeth, our parents in Sterkspruit, as well as our drug addict brother who is currently living with our parents.

Towards the end of February, I was on a platform just browsing and having a good laugh at the memes and people were posting, until a video popped up on my timeline on how people overseas were dying of a Respiratory illness. I then watched it and in panic mode I showed my big sister, who just laughed and joked about how it would not reach South Africa.

As days turned into weeks, more and more information popped up about the illness, and I picked up two words 'COVID-19' and 'Coronavirus' these seemed to have been the names of the illness - I do not know. I did try looking it up and GOSH! It was just too much for me to understand.

As if that was not enough, a cloud of panic was hovering around social media, "wear gloves and masks, use hand sanitisers that are alcohol based" my word! What does that even mean? Who should wear the masks and gloves? Why should they wear them and for how long? How often should one sanitize their hands? What about those who cannot afford the sanitisers? Oh, wait a minute where does one even buy the proper hand sanitisers? Do babies also have to wear masks and gloves? Do they also have to have their tiny hands sanitised? Confused was my middle name.

Rumours about the illness landing on South African ground started making rounds, and it was confirmed - it had officially admitted itself admission into South Africa silently. Are we all going to die? What is this COVID-19? Is it the same as Coronavirus? Does it have a cure? How

will I know if I have contracted the virus? Questions were flying around! We did not know what we were up against. Then the President announced the official 21 Day Lock-down, and the country stood still for a minute. What is a lockdown? What does it mean for us school children? What about the working class? The informal traders, vendors? What are we going to eat? What are we going to do with all this time on our hands? These are some of the Million and One question people were asking each other.

The lockdown started on the 26th of March 2020, what about grocery shopping for us households whose breadwinners get paid on the last day of the month, which in this case was the 31st of March. I don't know. However, grocery stores were exempted from closing during the lockdown, as they sell essential goods. that

was a relief! Regardless of the exclusion people went on a panic shopping spree, clearing shelves, taking more than they needed.

Working for a BBEE - my sister has a horrible day when payday comes. "You get paid on the last day of the month! That means between 00:00 of the 31st of march till 23:59! So, you will be paid anytime on that day." Is the answer she gets from her employer when she asks about the delay on her salary - of which on this particular day she asked about it at 14:37. The frustration, anger and stress was written all over her face - being the breadwinner she has to pay rent for the flat we are living in, she has to buy us food, pay our parents' helper, send our parents money to get groceries, buy her daughter's monthly needs. Buy electricity, pay my school fees, pay her debts and pay her monthly policy payments - the list goes on. All this was held up because she had not yet received her March salary.

When it finally came through it was too late to get anything done - 20:19. When morning came, she left very early in the morning to get things done. With no taxis or buses on the road, she had to walk to town. Along the way she was confronted by 'amaphara' - homeless drug addicts, who searched her and took a R50 note she had and insulted her for walking around with nothing but a "stupid R50". That incident on its own made me ask questions like: Are we safe during this lockdown? What happens to 'amaphara' during this lockdown?

As if that was not enough, my school sent an email telling her as my guardian to create a 'Zoom' account for my tuition. That meant we had to have a laptop with

a proper webcam, enough data for the online class - that on a good day, with a good internet connection and speed would chow 1G per Hour. 1G costs R125 on the cell phone networks we both use. STRESS! Food in stores is now ridiculously expensive; R20 for a head of cabbage, R35 for a 2.5kg bag of Maize Meal. A pack of nappies costs R229, a tin of Formula costs R175 - cheapest, and now we must have data for my Zoom lessons. I do 7 subjects at school each teacher wants +60minutes for a lesson. All this and yet the government said, "We are ready and prepared for this Pandemic". Again, a new word: PANDEMIC!

Relief funds for some and not for everyone. Yesterday morning as we were packing my stuff for camp, my big sister received an email from her employer who was telling her that the company will not be able to pay all its employees a 100% of their salaries but 50% of it on the 15th of every month till July 2020. What does that mean for us? What will we eat? We live on hand to mouth. Where will we stay? We won't be able to pay rent! What about our parents? Their grant money barely is enough for each of them. My school is requesting that my school fees be paid in full, with what? I will not be able to attend any Zoom lessons; my sister's daughter won't have nappies or formula.

Even coming to this camp - she had to go lend money from a loan shark, just so that I can come here and study. I read somewhere on a social media platform: "Discipline saved China, ill-discipline drowned Europe, Ignorance will kill Africa" - are we really ignorant or we were never taught about this 'thing' properly?!





Dr Heloise Sathorar
Main picture illustrated by Sphatho Mzantsi

HOLD ON TIGHT TO YOUR DREAMS

Have you ever had a dream? A dream to see something, a dream to do something, a dream to... Dreams are the vehicles that propel us forward... It is the wind that allows us to fly... It makes us smile... It makes us believe in a better tomorrow... It gives us a reason to live...

So many great things have been achieved that started out as a dream. Martin Luther King led his fight for the liberation of the African-American people in the United States with his great speech starting with the words: "I had a dream..."

Our own Tata Nelson Mandela believed in the power of dreams when he said: It always seems impossible until it is done". He went on to say: "A winner is a dreamer who never gives up."

We find ourselves in such a challenging time that we easily forget about our dreams. We get caught up in the day-to-day activities of surviving that we abandon our dreams. We are consumed by negativity that we forget to dream and to work on our dreams.

Do you have a dream? What is your dream?

- Read the suggestions provided on how to stand strong and reflect on them.
- List some of the resources available to you to help you achieve your dream. Then draw a mind map of how you can use these resources to achieve your dream.
- Identify things that will deter you from pursuing your dream. Indicate your response below.
- How can you avoid these things that will deter you? Indicate your response below
- Identify things that motivates you and list them in the table below.
- How can you embrace these motivational factors in your life? Indicate your response in a table below.

Reflective Activity 1:

I am (Name):
Age: Year:
My dream is:
.....
.....
.....

*Dreams can remain wonderful ideas in your mind....
But reward comes from chasing your dreams*

*and actualising your ideas.
Dreams are fulfilled through Dedication,
Responsibility, Education, the right Attitude
and Motivation.*

DEDICATION

You need to believe in your dream. You need to own it and commit all your effort to achieving it. Identify what and who can help you to achieve your dream. Develop a plan in which you draw on the resources available to you to work towards your dream. Are you dedicated to your dream?

Reflective Activity 2:

List some of the resources available to you to help you achieve your dream. Then draw a mind map of how you can use these resources to achieve your dream.

.....
.....
.....
.....

RESPONSIBILITY

To achieve your dream, you need to be responsible. Once you have identified resources that will help you achieve your dream and you have a plan on how to utilise these resources then you should pursue your plan. It is important to talk about your plan with your loved ones and with those you respect and trust to help you. Stay clear from those who might mislead you and refrain from engaging in activities that will deter you from achieving your dream.

Reflective Activity 3:

Identify things that will deter you from pursuing your dream. Indicate your response below.
How can you avoid these things that will deter you? Indicate your response below.

.....
.....
.....
.....

EDUCATION

E is the middle letter of the word dream and it symbolises that Education forms the core of all dreams. It is central to achieving your dream. From an educational perspective, do you know what is required to achieve your dream? If not, do you know where to get information about what is required to achieve your dream? Once you know what is required to achieve your dream prepare a detailed plan that will help you work towards achieving your dream.

ATTITUDE

The saying: "Your attitude determines your altitude" applies here. The way you feel and think about something and how you interact with people as well as your general approach to life will determine how far you get in life and also how easily you will be able to attain your dreams. An attitude of gratitude also goes a long way in assisting you to achieve your dreams. Acknowledge those who help you and always be humble. But, most of all, believe in your abilities to achieve your dream. Ask yourself: If others before you could do it, why not you? If you are the first one to do something in your family, the motivation should be even greater to achieve the dream.

MOTIVATION

Reflective Activity 4:

Identify things that motivates you and list them in the table below.
How can you embrace these motivational factors in your life? Indicate your response in the table below.

Motivates	Responses

Having a dream is important. Working toward achieving that dream is even more important. What is most important is that in times of challenge, and when you are faced with adversity, that you hold on tightly to your dreams. Stand firm and do not succumb to negativity. Continue to work tirelessly on your dreams, because as certain as the sun rises these challenging times will pass.

All of us started this year with many dreams. Some dreamed of passing their grade and moving to the next grade; Grade 7's dreamt of completing Primary School and moving on to Secondary School. Grade 12 learners looked forward to a matric farewell and moving on to University. Final year university students dreamt about their graduation and their future career...but all of our lives have been thrown off balance by a speed bump called Coronavirus or COVID 19.

Schools, colleges and universities are closed. Teachers are struggling to get work to learners, university lecturers and students are confronted with the challenges of online learning, and there are talks of the academic year spilling over into next year. This is all cause for anxiety and uncertainty. However, it is in these times of adversity that we have to stand strong and hold on to

our dreams. We have to stay positive and continue to work on our dreams.

Humanity has faced several challenges similar to COVID 19 in the past and has overcome it. Thus, nothing prevents us from overcoming this challenge too; and when we do, you need to be ready to fulfil your dreams. In the 1970's and 1980's our country found itself in a state of political turmoil; and during these years of struggle for political freedom, many learners had to go without school for months...but, this did not deter them...they stood strong and:

- Formed groups and taught each other;
- They shared material and their knowledge with their peers;
- They revised the work that was already done, believing that practice makes perfect, and also ensuring that they at least knew that part of the work well;
- They looked at the untaught content and taught themselves by following examples and doing the exercises linked to the content;
- They asked for help from teachers and other experts who willingly explained content to them over phones and after hours in homes and churches;
- They had set times to study and work on their school work;

and when the time came for them to write their exams they were ready. Many of these people are currently leading our country. If they could do it, you can too! Learners and students in South Africa can draw strength from these examples. Continue to work on your dream:

- Have a set timetable to focus on your school work;
 - Create a WhatsApp group with your peers and talk to them about your school work, explain the work to each other, test each other;
 - Continue to practise and revise the work that has been covered;
 - Look at the new content, try and teach yourself, work through examples, and try the activities on the new content; and
 - Ask your teacher, older siblings and friends for help.
- Stand strong and hold on to your dreams, because when this is over, and it will be over, you need to be able to pursue your dream. When this valley of despair passes, you must be ready to rise like the eagle. Everything of the best! We shall recover! We shall overcome, and we shall prosper again! God Bless South Africa and her citizens.

STILL I RISE - By Maya Angelou

You may write me down in history
With your bitter, twisted lies,
You may trod me in the very dirt
But still, like dust, I'll rise.

Does my sassiness upset you?
Why are you beset with gloom?
'Cause I walk like I've Got oil wells
Pumping in my living room.

Just like moons and like suns,
With the certainty of tides,
Just Like hope springs high,
Still I'll rise.

HOU STYF VAS AAN JOU DROME

Dr Heloise Sathorar
Hoof kunswerk geïllustreerd deur
Sphatho Mzantsi

Het jy al ooit 'n droom gehad? 'n Droom om iets te sien, 'n droom om iets te doen, 'n droom om... Drome is die voertuie wat ons vorentoe dryf... Dit is die wind wat ons laat vlieg... Dit laat ons glimlag... Dit laat ons glo in 'n beter môre... Dit gee ons 'n rede om te lewe...

Daar is soveel wonderlike dinge bereik wat as 'n droom begin het. Martin Luther King het sy stryd om die bevryding van die Afro-Amerikaanse bevolking in die Verenigde State geleidelik met sy wonderlike toespraak begin met die woorde: "Ek het 'n droom..."

Ons eie Tata Nelson Mandela het in die krag van drome geglo toe hy sê: "Dit lyk altyd onmoontlik totdat

dit gedoen is". Hy het verder gesê: "n Wenner is 'n dromer wat nooit opgee nie."

Ons bevind ons in so 'n uitdagende tyd dat ons maklik van ons drome vergeet. Ons raak so vasgevang in die daaglikse aktiwiteite om te oorleef dat ons ons drome laat vaar. Ons word so verkeer deur negatieweiteit dat ons vergeet om te droom en om aan ons drome te werk.

Het jy 'n droom? Wat is jou droom?

Lees die volgende voorstelle oor hoe om sterk te bly en besin daaroor.

- Sit sommige van die hulpbronne uiteen wat jou kan help om jou drome te bereik. Teken dan 'n breinkaart oor hoe jy hierdie hulpbronne kan gebruik om jou drome te bereik.
- Identifiseer dinge wat jou sal verhoed om jou drome na te jaag. Dui jou antwoord hier onder aan.
- Hoe kan jy hierdie dinge vermy wat jou sal verhin-

der? Dui jou antwoord hier onder aan.

- Identifiseer dinge wat jou motiveer en sit hulle in die tabel hier onder uiteen.
- Hoe kan jy hierdie motiverende faktore in jou lewe omarm? Dui jou reaksie in 'n tabel hier onder aan.

Reflektiewe aktiwiteit 1:

Ek is (Naam):
Ouderdom: Yaar:
My droom is:
.....
.....
.....

*Drome kan wonderlike idees in jou kop bly...
Maar beloning kom uit die najaging van jou
drome en die realisering van jou idees.*

Drome word vervul deur Toewyding, Verantwoordelikheid, Opvoeding, die regte Gesindheid en Motivering.

TOEWYDING

Jy moet in jou droom glo. Jy moet dit jou eie maak en alles inspan om dit te bereik. Identifiseer wie en wat jou kan help om jou drome te verwesenlik. Stel 'n plan op waarin jy die beskikbare bronne gebruik om jou drome na te streef. Is jy toegewyd tot jou drome?



